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# Daily Report

# East Europe

FBIS-EEU-90-058
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*FBIS-EEU-90-058*

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*26 March 1990*

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## Strategy for Creating 'Greater Serbia' Cited

*AU2303124490 Tirana ZERI I POPULLIT in Albanian 18 Mar 90 p 4*

[Article by Elmas Leci, candidate of sciences: "From 'United Serbia' to 'Greater Serbia'"]

[Text] One of the principal propaganda devices in the Serbian lies about Kosovo involves what are called the efforts of the Albanian people in Kosovo to supposedly create a "Greater Albania." This charge is repeated again and again on rostrums, in newspapers, and on television, with the aim of convincing democratic public opinion at home and abroad that the Albanians' desire for the enforcement of the Federal Constitution, democratic and national rights, their cultural identity and language, and for equality with the other peoples of the federation aim at creating a "Greater Albania." Since there is no proof for such an absurdity in the reality of the protests, demands, and aspirations of the Albanian people in Kosovo, one may reasonably ask why the Great Serbs make so much noise about this untruth.

By analyzing Serbian policy and strategy in Kosovo and at a federal level, one comes to understand why Serbian propaganda is spreading an anti-Albanian psychosis. The accusations over the creation of "Greater Albania" seek to conceal the Great Serbs' plans for the creation of "Greater Serbia." In today's political vocabulary, this is called "united Serbia," which is nothing less than "Greater Serbia." The propaganda slogan of "united Serbia" was first launched after the constitutional amendments were pushed through with the help of tanks in March last year, as a result of which Kosovo lost its autonomy. Under the mask of a "united state," the process began of removing all the rights which the Yugoslav Constitution recognizes for the Albanian people in Kosovo, as for all other peoples in Yugoslavia. The aim is to totally absorb Kosovo in Serbia and for the Albanians to lose every shred of national identity. The meeting of the Serbian Assembly Executive Council on 12 March approved a short-term plan which aims at the removal of all Albanian rights by means of state violence, down to their mass expulsion from Kosovo. For this purpose, the Serbian Government will next month create a colonial directorate for Kosovo, to be called the "republican directorate" for the progress of Kosovo. This colonial directorate will be based in Pristina and one of its fundamental tasks will be, first of all, the settling of groups of Serbian colonists in Kosovo and the creation of new, ethnically pure villages and communes. It will compile lists of Albanians who are to be called immigrants, in order to expel them from Kosovo by force. It is also planned to expel from Kosovo those Albanians who are without work. Meanwhile, the Serbian Government will produce a so-called family planning law aimed against Albanian families. After this, the Serbian Government program anticipates producing a law for the official and public use of the Serbo-Croatian language and alphabet in the united Serbian state, which will mean forbidding the Albanian language and alphabet. Likewise, textbooks for primary and secondary schools will be standardized, and, in the name of a "single enrollment policy," about 1,000 more Serbian and Montenegrin students will be brought to Pristina University.

The Serbian Government program aims to attain a "united Serbian state" by eliminating the Albanians' national identity, expelling and annihilating them in the national, cultural, historical, and physical sense. In this way, Serbia will carry out what you might call the first phase of the creation of "Greater Serbia" by denying the provincial autonomy of Kosovo and assimilating its Albanian people. It is trying to attain this by every means of force and state terror, whose tragic consequences we have seen in the dozens of innocent demonstrators killed—children, young people, girls, and the elderly, and in the hundreds and thousands wounded and arrested in the concentration camp in which the Kosovo Albanian people now live.

Chauvinist appetite is insatiable, and "united Serbia," or more precisely "Greater Serbia," is planning on greater expansion. "The extension of the changes to the 1974 Constitution to the other republics where Serbs live would be a good example of brotherhood and unity," declares Milosevic's mouthpiece POLITIKA. KOMUNIST, for its part, threatens that "in Yugoslavia, the future requires an antibureaucratic revolution for all those who do not adapt themselves to the Serbian theories." POLITIKA adds: "Those who think that Serbia, having become a united state, will from now on defend the status quo, are mistaken." Thus, those who think that the rush toward Greater Serbia will be halted, now that Kosovo's autonomy has been eliminated and the province is under direct Serbian control, are also mistaken.

Serbian policy's strategy and tactics in Yugoslavia today openly display efforts to accomplish a plan for Serbia to dominate the country, or more precisely to transform Yugoslavia into a "Greater Serbia." Every day, this extremely dangerous future becomes clearer in Yugoslavia and the message coming from the bloody policy of Serbia in Kosovo is quite plain. "Serbia's attitude can only be understood to mean the recreation of its empire of long ago," Viktor Zakel, deputy president of the Slovene Socialist Alliance Republican Conference declared recently. Professor Branko Horvat writes in the newspaper VJESNIK that "the Serbian leadership does not shrink from confrontation with all of Yugoslavia, because their aim is to unite everybody in a "Greater Serbia."

Attempts are being made to create "united Serbia" or "Greater Serbia" by violating the principle of the equality of the peoples in the federation, trampling on their national and democratic rights, and subjecting them to Serbian unitarism. This is an old imperial project, which is not only an anachronism and against the flow of history but also a crime, as the entire world now sees in what is happening in Kosovo.

## Malile Attends Greek Embassy Reception

*AU2503150490 Tirana ATA in English
0934 GMT 24 mar 90*

[Text] Tirana, March 24 (ATA)—On occasion of the national day of Greece, the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Greek Republic to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Spiridhon Dhokianos, gave a reception on March 23.

Taking part in the reception were the minister for foreign affairs, Reis Malile; minister under the Presidency of the Council of Ministers and chairman of the Committee for Economic Cooperation With Foreign Countries, Farudin Hoxha; the chairman of the Executive Committee of the Tirana District People's Council, Llambi Gegprifti; director of the International Relations Study Institute, Sofokli Lazri; deputies to the People's Assembly, working people of science, culture, art, press, and other invitees.

Present were also heads and functionaries of the diplomatic representations accredited to the People's Socialist Republic of Albania.

## Alia Greets Greece's Sartzetakis on National Day

*AU2503152590 Tirana ATA in English
0730 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Tirana, March 25 (ATA)—The president of the Presidium of the People's Assembly of the People's Socialist Republic of Albania, Comrade Ramiz Alia, has sent the following message to the president of the Hellenic Republic, Khristos Sartzetakis:

"The celebration of the national day of Greece gives me the pleasure that on behalf of the Albanian people, the Presidium of the People's Assembly and on my behalf, to convey to you and through you to the friendly Greek people warm greetings and best wishes for well-being and prosperity.

"I wish that the relations of friendship and cooperation between our neighbouring countries develop ever more to the common benefit of the Albanian people and the Greek one as well as in the interest of peace in the Balkans and Europe."

## Vice Chairman Miska Arrives in Egypt 24 Mar

*AU2503152890 Tirana ATA in English
0732 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Tirana, March 25 (ATA)—At the invitation of the vice-premier and minister of agriculture of the AR [Arab Republic] of Egypt, Dr. Yusuf Amin Wali, Pali Miska, vice-chairman of the Council of Ministers and minister of agriculture of the PSR [People's Socialist Republic] of Albania left for an official friendly visit to Egypt.

On March 24, he arrived in Cairo. At the airport he was received by the first deputy minister of agriculture, Prof. Muhammad Desuki [spelling as received], as well as by other senior functionaries of the Ministry of Agriculture of Egypt. Present was also the ambassador of Albania in Cairo, Alkyz Cerga.

## Malile Receives Algerian Newspaper Director

*AU2503153090 Tirana ATA in English
0734 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Tirana, March 25 (ATA)—On March 24 the minister of foreign affairs, Reis Malile, received Nuredin Nait Mazi [name as received], director general of the Algerian newspaper EL MOUDJAHID, who has been invited by the Albanian Committee for Friendly and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries for a visit to our country.

At the reception which was attended also by the ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic and People's Republic of Algeria to Albania, Mohamed Lemkami, they talked of the friendly relations between the two countries. Likewise, it was spoken of the special importance and the role played by mass media in the consolidation of the relations of friendship and cooperation between Albania and Algeria.

On March 24 Nuredin Nait Mazi left our country.

### South Korean Foreign Minister Meets Mladenov

*AU2303140090 Sofia BTA in English*
*1328 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March (BTA)—Bulgaria and South Korea have agreed in principle for long-term credits which will be used for encouragement of industrial cooperation of joint projects between the two countries' companies. This agreement was reached at this morning's talks between Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov and South Korean Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung.

The two have reached an agreement for acceleration of the preparation of the agreement for mutual encouragement and guaranteeing of investments. There are interests for development of cooperation in spheres like household electronics, shipbuilding, the petrochemical industry, the production of consumer goods.

The conviction was expressed at the meeting that the geographical distance between the two countries is not a burden for economic contacts on a mutually beneficial basis. Bulgaria and South Korea can contribute to each other in the development of production trade activities in the respective region, which can be directed also at third countries.

Today Mr. Choe Ho-chung was received by State Council President Petur Mladenov with whom he discussed the significant possibilities for cooperation in economy, policy and culture.

Petur Mladenov stressed the significance of the document signed today for the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries and expressed hope that not before long there will be practical results.

The South Korean foreign minister also expressed his conviction that there will be close economic cooperation between Bulgaria and his country. His stressed his satisfaction with the talks and agreements in Sofia.

In conclusion the two officials said that the establishment of fruitful and busy relations between Bulgaria and South Korea is in the spirit of time and corresponds to the progressive trends in the general development of the world.

### Diplomatic Links Established

*AU2303135890 Sofia BTA in English*
*1323 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Bulgaria, South Korea: New Stage in Relations"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March (BTA)—Bulgaria and South Korea have signed today a joint declaration for the establishment of diplomatic relations by which they set the beginning of official relations between the two countries.

A second document was signed, too, an agreement for economic and techno-scientific cooperation which is an expression of the two countries' intentions to develop relations in the sphere of economy, science and technology, culture and sports, as well as other spheres.

There are plans to encourage economic and techno-scientific cooperation as well as investments. Efforts will be directed at the exchange of scientific results, information, organizing of symposia and other meetings, the realization of joint research and projects of mutual interest.

A joint committee will be established to promote the fulfilment of the agreement. Its task will be to survey the possibilities and come with concrete proposals for the development of trade and economic relations.

After the signing of the two documents the Bulgarian foreign minister Boyko Dimitrov said in his talk with his South Korean counterpart that now there is a unique opportunity for equal and mutually advantageous development of relations between the two countries. The common conclusion is that there are good prerequisites and political will, Boyko Dimitrov said.

He pointed at the respect expressed by the Bulgarian side for the Korean people as well as conviction that the way to solving the issues on the Korean peninsula is a peaceful dialogue for the country's unification on an equal and democratic basis. We confirmed Bulgaria's support to all proposals and steps directed at national reconciliation and unification and corresponding to the interest of the Korean people, to peace and stability in the region and in the world at large, Boyko Dimitrov said.

South Korea's Foreign Minister Choe Ho-chung said that the signing of the two documents sets the beginning of constructive efforts for the development and expansion of cooperation. They will doubtless contribute to the efficiency of contacts on the basis of mutual advantage and common interests, he said in conclusion.

### Private Sector Cooperation

*AU2303205390 Sofia BTA in English*
*1841 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 23 (BTA)—Mr. Choe Ho-chung, the first minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Korea to visit Bulgaria, said today that the private sector will be actively involved in the future cooperation between the two countries.

He told a news conference before his departure that the private business interests in his country will be encouraged to come to Bulgaria and establish contacts for the formation of joint ventures and partnerships. The Republic of Korea, which is the world's tenth most active trading power, plans to expand its exports to Bulgaria and to place commercial exchanges on a balanced basis.

In Mr. Choe's view, joint ventures are a promising area for the promotion of cooperation. "We have an advanced electronics industry, communications technology, ship-building and other economic spheres, and we will soon send teams of business circles representatives to Bulgaria and to the other East European countries," he said.

Asked about the possibility to grant economic aid to Bulgaria, Mr. Choe Ho-chung said that there is a loans foundation in the Republic of Korea and that if Bulgaria submits a formal request, it would be studied very carefully and favourably. "We are even ready to grant some assistance in the business sector," he said.

Mr. Choe Ho-chung is optimistic about the prospects for cooperation between Bulgaria and the Republic of Korea. He stressed that the establishment of formal diplomatic relations between the two countries sets a good beginning with many opportunities.

The foreign minister of the Republic of Korea said that the two Korean states should be peacefully reunited. "Our policy is to replace confrontation by cooperation and harmony," he said, stressing that his country would like to see rapid progress in this direction, similar to the progress in Eastern Europe. "We are encouraged by the steps which are taken towards the unification of Germany," Mr. Choe Ho-chung said.

He pointed out that he does not see any reasons why the Republic of Korea should not establish close relations with Mongolia. "We should start talks on the intensification of economic contacts which will result in diplomatic relations," the foreign minister of the Republic of Korea said.

## Lukanov Notes Future Settlements With USSR

*AU2303231590 Sofia BTA in English*
*2127 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 23 (BTA)—During Mr. Andrey Lukanov's recent visit to Moscow he reached agreement with the Soviet head of government, Mr. Nikolay Ryzhkov, on the introduction of convertible-currency settlements between Bulgaria and the Soviet Union after a transitional period of at least three years, the Bulgarian prime minister said answering a BTA question at his regular news conference here today. He explained that Bulgaria badly needs this reform with a view to creating more favourable conditions for a transition to a market economy. The Soviet Union can sell for convertible currency at least 60 per cent of the raw materials which it now exports to Bulgaria against transferable roubles, Mr. Lukanov said.

He pointed out that as from the beginning of next year, Bulgarian and Soviet companies will conduct their mutual transactions in what he called a "multi-monetary" system. This means that they will be able to use dollars as money of account on a clearing or a barter basis (under the intergovernmental agreement on settlements starting January 1, 1991) or to settle their mutual bills in real dollars or in transferable roubles, depending on which suits them best.

Mr. Lukanov revealed details about the negotiations which Bulgaria and the USSR hold with Fiat on car-making cooperation. He said that Bulgaria is ready to negotiate on "credits as well as investment proper" in the joint production of motor cars with any manufacturer which would undertake to produce at least 200,000 cars for the Bulgarian market and for export.

Mr. Andrey Lukanov deplored the opposition's refusal to support the Bulgarian Government's memorandum to the EC and explained that the document was drafted and sent "in the nick of time" at the request of the Community. "If we were late, we would have placed the government which will be formed after the elections in a difficult position," Mr. Lukano said. He explained that Bulgaria cannot afford to "tail-end" the rest of Eastern Europe in the relations with the Common Market.

## French Planning Secretary, Experts Hold Talks

*AU2503150690 Sofia BTA in English*
*1323 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 24 (BTA)—At the invitation of the Bulgarian Government, Mr. Lionel Stoleru, France's secretary of state for planning, is visiting here at the head of a team of experts for consultations on the economic reform and the crisis-management programme. Mr. Stoleru conferred with Mr. Stefan Stoilov, minister in charge of the economic reform, and with Mr. Ivan Tenev, minister of the economy and planning.

The sides discussed the Bulgarian Government's concepts of the practical policy which will be expected to help the country gradually out of the crisis and to launch a radical economic reform. Particular attention was paid to the phased transition to a market economy and market structures. The officials considered the measures intended to secure the implementation of the economic stabilization and reform programme already this year.

The diversification of the forms of ownership and the denationalization of a number of enterprises and the transition to market pricing were high on the agenda of the talks. As a first step, the government plans to liberalize the prices of some 40 per cent of the commodities. The sides discussed the package of measures to create a money market and to raise the efficiency of foreign currency operations.

The French guest supported the idea of a stage-by-stage transition to a market economy and the measures to guarantee social security to the lowest income brackets. An emphasis was laid on the right direction in which measures are taken to curb the inevitable growth of inflation and to prevent an inflationary spiral. The secretary of state for planning noted that the success of the reform will depend on a national consensus on the matter and on the earlier holding of elections.

### Meets Minister Bashikarov

*AU2503151990 Sofia BTA in English*
*1918 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 24 (BTA)—Today Mr. Lionel Stoleru, France's secretary of state for planning, who is paying a visit here at the invitation of the government, held consultations with Mr. Petur Bashikarov, minister of foreign economic relations, and with Mr. Ivan Dragnevski, president of the Bulgarian National Bank. They considered the adaptation of the country's foreign trade regulations and its banking system to the new conditions.

They discussed the changes in the composition of commercial exchanges and the banking organisation reform, stressing the need for a revision of the pricing and the monetary policy and exploring the opportunities for a convertibility of the Bulgarian lev.

The guest was familiarized with the specific steps liberalizing Bulgaria's foreign trade and with the rights granted to the companies to carry out foreign trade on their own. Mr. Stoleru told his hosts about France's 25-year-long experience of inflation restraint through state price regulation, as well as about the development of state-owned industry in the conditions of a market economy. In his view, the reorganization and retooling of enterprises, irrespective of who owns them, is the single most important way to cope with the crisis, more important than the setting up of private property or the denationalization of businesses.

### Lukanov Receives Official

*AU2503183590 Sofia BTA in English*
*1710 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 25 (BTA)—The French economist delegation led by Mr Lionel Stoleru, secretary of state for planning, were received today by Mr Andrey Lukanov, chairman of the Council of Ministers. The guests were familiarized with various aspects of the political and economic situation in the country and with the principles by which the government is guided in preparing and implementing the economic reform.

Mr Lionel Stoleru emphasized that the transition to a market economy necessitates the adoption of comprehensive and generally acknowledged principles irrespective of the specificities of each national economy. He said that the success of the economic reform requires a broad measure of national consensus and of common understanding on the character of the changes and their effects.

The sides share a readiness for French experts to keep working in Bulgaria. They will be tackling individual aspects of the reform, including pricing, taxation, planning in the conditions of a market economy, the introduction of a new system of accountancy and statistical analyses.

### Council of Europe Meeting Discussed

*AU2303214590 Sofia OTECHESTVEN FRONT*
*in Bulgarian 22 Mar 90 pp 1, 3*

[Text] Lisbon, 21 March (Own correspondent)—The Council of Europe special conference begins its work in Lisbon on 23 March. Representatives of the East European countries will also be taking part.

On March 21, a representative of Fatherland Front met with Bulgarian Foreign Minister Boyko Dimitrov and asked him the following question:

[Fatherland Front] You are about to travel to Lisbon to take part in the meeting of the foreign ministers of the Council of Europe member countries. What baggage will you be carrying in your diplomatic suitcase, and what does Bulgaria expect from this meeting?

[Dimitrov] All these meetings have the same goal, namely for us to present to the world the democratic changes that are taking place in Bulgaria and, first and foremost, the priority we give to turning toward Europe. On this basis we will seek what we consider should rightfully belong to our people, namely recognition of what they are doing—the completion of radical changes in democratizing society, in order that upon this foundation Bulgaria should occupy a worthy place in the European community. My impression from the talks so far is that we are encountering understanding, sympathy, and support. [end Dimitrov statement]

The meeting, which will be held at the ministerial level, will consider the problem of guarantees for peace in Europe, in the conditions of the rapidly proceeding radical changes in the eastern part of the Old Continent. Within the framework of the European unity that is desired by both sides, The Western partners are placing the economic resurgence of East Europe as a primary task in order to ensure a peaceful transition from totalitarianism to democracy.

Western experts consider that the task can be resolved under two conditions. The capitalist countries must realize the absolute immediacy of the problem, from the viewpoint of their own interests, and provide the necessary financial means and technologies where this is completely within the possibilities of their economies. On the other hand, the eastern partners must be ready to quickly carry out the required economic reforms, in order that the money allocated should produce results.

On the eve of the meeting in Lisbon, the specialists emphasize that the economic problems rank foremost in the all-European process, while political problems and human rights come second. They consider that this creates favorable preconditions for eliminating the economic and technological imbalances and helps to overcome the artificial division, leading to interaction and qualitatively new cooperation in Europe.

Observers note that the EC will be the chief source of aid for the East, and that the funds will be earmarked for those states in which the most favorable conditions exist for changeover to a market economy and a more expedient spending of funds. The common view is that all the European states outside the Warsaw Pact have a pressing interest in providing speedy and generous financial aid to the East European states, since not only their own political stability, but also social And political peace in the whole of Europe will depend on the economic restoration of Eastern Europe.

## Friendship Society Established With Turkey

*AU2503151090 Sofia BTA in English*
*1604 GMT 24 mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 24 (BTA)—The founders of the Bulgaro-Turkish Friendship Society are guided by humane objectives and ideas. They are convinced that this step will contribute to the cause of peace in Europe at large and in the Balkans in particular. Public and cultural figures and members of the public today attended the inaugural meeting of the society. They discussed the organisation's purposes and tasks.

Recalling facts of the distant and more recent past which bear witness to the fine contacts between the two peoples, the participants stressed the need to set up a society which will help restore and strengthen Bulgaro-Turkish relations. The speakers said they wanted to contribute to the closeness between Bulgarians and Turks who, irrespective of their different religions and despite the hatred which until recently was artificially fanned up between them, will join hands for the sake of understanding and good-neighbourliness.

## Trade With FRG Diminishes; Deficit Persists

*AU2303133490 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO*
*in Bulgarian 17 Mar 90 pp 1, 2*

[Article by Dimitur Khadzhinikolov, RABOTNICHESKO DELO Bonn correspondent: "Bulgaria Losing Positions on West German Market"]

[Text] Bonn, 16 March—Bulgaria is the only state in East Europe with which the FRG has diminished its trade exchange, by 4.7 percent, in 1989 compared with 1988.

Expressed in figures this means that our mutual trade with the FRG was worth DM [deutsche mark] 1.798 billion in 1989, namely DM 100 million less than in 1988. In examining these figures, we should take into consideration the fact that while Bulgaria's share in the FRG's total foreign trade exchange represents only 0.15 percent (a little over one thousand), the FRG is our main Western trading partner.

This information is contained in the report of the FRG Economic Commission for Eastern Europe on trade with East European CEMA member countries (with the exception of the GDR). The FRG's trade with these countries increased somewhat in 1989 and attained a value of DM 43.6 billion, which represents 22 percent more than in 1988. The volume of West German-Soviet trade, for example, attained DM 20 billion, which also represents 22 percent more compared with 1988. The highest rate of growth, however, was attained in the FRG's trade with Poland—a 38 percent increase—and with Hungary—a 26 percent increase.

Bulgaria's enormous trade deficit with the FRG is alarming. In 1989 it was worth DM 1.144 billion (approximately $670 million). It is true that a slight improvement could be observed in 1989, compared with 1988, when the deficit was worth worth DM1.244 billion. However, this modest improvement should be chiefly attributed to a six-percent reduction of our imports from the FRG, while our exports to the FRG increased by merely 1.6 percent in the meantime.

Naturally, Bulgarian-FRG trade should be considered within the context of the total FRG-CEMA trade relations, and it has been known for many years that our countries' deficit is very high in this balance. The East Europen states' imports from the FRG considerably prevail over their exports to that country. In 1989, for example, the deficit of East European countries with West Germany amounted to DM5 billion. Neverthless, it is difficult to accept that nearly one fourth of the FRG's positive balance in its trade with East European countries stems from....the Bulgarian deficit.

The situation was even more alarming in recent months when the trend of Bulgarian enterprises failing to fulfill treaties they have already signed with the FRG on exports to that country was observed. Some of these enterprises justify their failure by putting the blame on the recently expanding strike wave. It is true that so-called "emergency situations" can be used as excuses for unfulfilled obligations in foreign trade. However, no one is ready to pay in foreign exchange for unreceived goods. This means that if things should continue to deteriorate in this way, our exports to the FRG should even more decline. In such case we have to face the dilemma of whether to ask for new, large credits in order to pay for our imports, which would even more increase our foreign debts, or whether we should further drastically reduce our imports from the FRG, which would result in a shortage of medicines, chemical products, machines, household appliances, and other urgently required consumer goods.

I recently talked to Dr. Kersten Oschmann, head of the Bulgarian Section at the FRG's Economic Commission for Eastern Europe. This was a frank conversation. After pointing out the still-good reputation of Bulgarian enterprises in the FRG, Dr. Oschmann, however, added that, if the situation should further deteriorate, Bulgaria's good reputation on the foreign markets may be affected in the future. While other countries are investing millions to advertise their goods in the FRG, we are ruining our chances achieved with so much effort. It would not be surprising if "Bulgarian white cheese" would soon be imported from....Turkey.

Another passage in the report of the Commission on Eastern Europe was about the good chances emerging for East Europe in connection with West German investments. It is said that several FRG corporations and banks are competing in opening branches in Prague, Budapest, and Warsaw. Sofia is not mentioned in this connection, however, and this is entirely our own fault, because while the aforementioned countries promptly understood that their national interests should prevail over personal, family, or party interests, people in our country are still concerned about one thing only—namely that my neighbor should not be better off than me, no matter what happens.

## Diplomatic Relations Established With Namibia

*AU2303130290 Sofia BTA in English*
*0855 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek, March 23 (BTA)—The Bulgarian Government delegation, which is in Namibia in relation with the celebrations of Namibia's independence was received today by President Sam Nuyoma.

The leader of the delegation Nora Ananieva, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers, handed the Namibian president an address by Mr. Petur Mladenov. The address stresses that Bulgaria acknowledges the newly-liberated country and expresses readiness to develop bilateral relations on a mutually advantageous basis.

"To us Bulgaria has been and will continue to be a friendly country," Sam Nuyoma said.

An agreement was reached to establish diplomatic relations between the two countries.

## Newspaper Alleges 'Illegal Export of Silver'

*AU2303130090 Sofia BTA in English*
*1008 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 23 (BTA)—How many tons of silver have been exported from Bulgaria, who let these transactions take place, where has the money been invested? DEMOKRATSIYA asks. In the beginning of the week the daily of the Union of Democratic Forces announced about the illegal export of 25 tons of silver from Bulgaria to Switzerland. In today's publication there are new data according to which the exported silver is 39,900 kg.

The exporting company Ikomev, the address of which was unknown, has been discovered. As DEMOKRATSIYA writes, Office Number 25 at the Intercommerce Foreign Trade Organization, where representations of the covert companies are concentrated, is called Ikomev.

The daily quotes the letter of former minister of foreign economic relations to the then director general of Intercommerce K. Glavanakov. According to this letter the representation of Ikomev "was assigned a foreign currency task" to the amount of 6 million currency leva.

The paper draws the conclusion: national wealth has been exported according to plan.

A presumption is made that Ikomev is registered in Lichtenstein and this is related with travels to this city of Ivan Ugrinov, deputy director general of Intercommerce, who has reached the age limit for pensioners. His colleagues have objected against his stay in the enterprise and have written about that to the prime minister. Their signal has, however been left without consequences. "Obviously Ugrinov was still important to somebody", the authors of the article think. Under the business trip papers of Ugrinov is the signature of the present foreign economic relations deputy minister Konstantin Glavanakov.

DEMOKRATSIYA promises to tell about "the secret reexport of pistols, golden watches and other goods."

## Cabinet Meeting Considers Crime Problems

*AU2303201690 Sofia BTA in English*
*1839 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sofia, March 23 (BTA)—With Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov in the chair, the Council of Ministers met to consider some pressing crime control problems.

The crime rate is rising in this counrty, and there are increasingly frequent cases of extremism, vandalism, gross law-breaking, and law-enforcement officers' disregard and resistance; serious crime is on the increase and inflicts great material and moral damage on society and its members. Social tensions are mounting due to the increased number of housebreaking offences, of assaults and robberies of senior citizens in their homes.

The number of economic misappropriations is growing, too. Here are systematic breaches of the peace in the large cities, and the traffic safety violations statistics are alarming.

The national police force has become less efficient in combating crime.

Mr Andrey Lukanov pointed out that the government can understand and appreciate the situation and will react adequately within the powers vested in it by the Constitution and the laws and in accordance with the administrative rights and responsibilities of the competent authorities.

"Certainly, all measures which we will take should be consistent with our strategic goal of building a state committed to the rule of law. In other words, they should be implemented on the basis of the law, within the law and in the name of the law. By no means should they violate the ordinary citizens' democratic rights in any way whatsoever, nor should they impede the process of social perfection and democratization," the head of government said.

The cabinet approved a draft decree of the Council of Ministers laying down a package of measures which the Ministry of the Economy and Planning and the executive committees of the local councils should take to raise the efficiency of the national police force operation. The required financial and material resources will be allocated to this end, law and order maintenance forces will be regrouped in Sofia and other big cities, and police officers immediately involved in combating crime and in policing mass, sports and other public events will get extra pay for overtime.

The chief executive officers of companies and other economic organisations are assigned to tighten internal regulations and controls for safeguarding public property from dishonest appropriation and for observing fire precautions.

The Ministry of National Education and the Ministry of Justice will submit for approval to the Council of Ministers a draft national programme for cultivating law awareness in young people.

## Government Views Poor State of Water Resources

*AU2303231690 Sofia BTA in English 2132 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Government Calls for Water Saving"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 23 (BTA)—The Council of Ministers considered the condition of the country's water resources. After several dry spells, 1989 was one of the driest years in four decades. This year, too, started snowless and with lower precipitation than usual, due to which Bulgaria's water resources are diminishing alarmingly.

According to observations, the mountain snow covers and the free-flowing river waters are way below the 1989 levels. Water supplies in dam lakes are dwindling disastrously. By March 15 they were full at merely 24 per cent of their capacity. The Georgi Traykov dam in Eastern Bulgaria has run dry. Water is much below its usual mark in the rest of the dams. What little water is available cannot be used because it is polluted. The worst affected dam is the Kamchiya which supplies water to 300,000 people living in the towns of Burgas, Varna, Aytos, Karnobat and a number of seaside resorts. The water level in that dam is so low now that it disrupts the normal operation of the water-treatment plant and the drinking water quality cannot be guaranteed.

Household and industrial water supply is already running into serious difficulties in these and other parts of the country. The problems are expected to make themselves most tangibly felt during the tourist season. There are reasons for worry over crop irrigation near the towns of Pazardzhik, Plovdiv, Stara Zagora, Sliven, Yambol and the eastern part of the Sofia basin.

The government outlined measures to prevent a shortage of water for domestic, industrial and farming uses. The government will grant a 15-million-leva loan for drilling wells and for the construction of water-supply and irrigation projects. The Ministry of Industry and Technology will explore the opportunities to introduce new types of deep-well pumps.

The leaderships of the regions risking to run short of water will take special measures, paying particular attention to the resort complexes. Ozonization facilities will be imported for the water delivered to the Black Sea resorts of Sunny Beach and Golden Sands.

## Reports on Contact Group Agreements 'Premature'

*AU2303142290 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1400 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] An announcement has been received on the work of the contact group of the National Roundtable. In accordance with the accords reached at the last plenary session of the National Roundtable on 19 March, the contact group and working groups have been continuing their intensive work on the basic ideas and principles contained in the draft laws to be submitted for discussion at the National Assembly.

The announcements by certain mass media that agreements have already been reached are premature. No agreements have been reached in the contact group, and the announcements do not reflect the work so far on drawing up the draft agreement of the National Roundtable.

## Low Radiation Emissions From Nuclear Plant

*AU2603081390 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 21 Mar 90 p 2*

[Lyubomir Rozenshtayn report: "February Was Not Radioactive"]

[Text] No breaches of the safety limits occurred in February 1990 during the operation of the power generating units of the Kozloduy Nuclear Power Plant.

This became clear from the data gathered by the "Nuclear Energy Industry" Economic Trust in Kozloduy, which we receive every month for publication by mutual arrangement.

During February, the gamma background radiation in Kozloduy and at the nuclear power plant varied between nine and 16 milliroentgens per hour.

Radioactive emissions into the atmosphere had the following monthly values: radioactive noble gases, 1,572 curies (3.65 percent of the permitted maximum); long-lived beta aerosols, 4.6 millicuries (0.35 percent of the maximum norm); and radioactive iodine 131, 17.1 millicuries (2.02 percent of the maximum norm).

During January, atmospheric radioactivity at ground level in the 12-kilometer-radius zone of observation around the nuclear power plant ranged from 0.28 to 3.21 millibecquerels per cubic meter, and radioactive deposits in this zone varied from 0.3 to 4.4 becquerels per cubic meter per day.

## BCP Leader Lilov Visits Shumen Area

*AU2303184590 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Today's visit by Aleksandur Lilov, Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Supreme Council chairman, to the Shumen area began with a meeting with representatives of the Shumen municipal BCP organization. The participants discussed problems concerning renewal and changes in the party and its platform in the forthcoming elections. The nationality issue also occupied an important place in the discussions.

In his speech, Aleksandur Lilov emphasized the great importance of a peaceful transition to the democratization of society and an active dialogue between all political forces in the name of the Bulgarian people's prosperity.

Lilov is continuing his visit with meetings in the villages of (Divech) and (Zvenets).

## BCP Organizations Urged To Intensify Work

*AU2503160290 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 19 Mar 90 p 2*

[RD: "Do Not Wait for Instructions"]

[Text] Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] village and city organizations are writing to us to say that while the opposition machine gradually intensifies its work, our machine is still in "low gear."

Our political opponents organize rallies and processions, attract supporters, and have already begun their election campaign, while numerous BCP councils and organizations are still idle. Some are even totally indifferent toward party members whose organizations at their workplaces have been disbanded and who have come to register in new organizations.

We should think about a strange phenomenon. We hear demands that the members of the BCP leadership should constantly be among the people, meet with them at rallies, and appear on television. The recent meetings of Aleksandur Lilov, Petur Mladenov, Dobri Dzhurov, and other BCP Supreme Council members with working people in various regions of the country confirmed that the party's ideas of renewal and its salvation platform for a peaceful transition toward democratic socialism attract ever-growing public support.

However, could we say that the same situation prevails "at the bottom" as we used to say? The BCP secretary in a Popovo-area village justifies himself by saying that he really is idle, but this is so only because instructions are no longer coming "from the top." If such instructions come, he will implement them. However, as long as there are no instructions, he will stay idle. This is what he has always done.

What instructions should we wait for? Do we not have a manifesto and a statute? Do we need any instructions to meet with the Communists and nonparty members in the district and share with them our vision of a democratic and rule-of-law state; our plan to combat inflation, the high cost of living, and poverty; and our program on overcoming the careless attitude demonstrated in the enterprises and agrarian fields? Must we await instructions to hear the people's voice and be together with them in the common work for renewal and change?

Evidently, lists with names of candidates will no longer be dropped "from the top." Our candidates will be selected by us, and our selection will be final. The personal qualities of the most determined and worthy champions of transforming the country and leading it out of the swamp of totalitarianism must be above any doubt. The months leading up to the elections will be decisive in facilitating the election of those who most deserve the future confidence of the people.

Until then we must work—not on the basis of instructions, but at our own initiative, prompted by deep internal convictions. We must demonstrate fantasy, creativity, and a humane approach. No scripts will help us. We must use both the "Red Poppy" [an old party song, the favorite song of BCP founder Dimitur Blagoev] and the Beatles.

## Podkrepa Chairman Discusses Election Aims

*AU2503210090 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 19 Mar 90 p 4*

[Report on interview with Konstantin Trenchev, Independent Podkrepa Labor Federation chairman, by Piotr Gadzinowski; place and date not given: "A Specific Character"]

[Text] Konstantin Trenchev, 34 years old, a doctor of medicine, and until recently resident in Stara Zagora, is the founder and chairman of the Independent Podkrepa Labor Federation, which was established in Plovdiv on 8 February 1989. Its program and organization is similar to "Solidarity's." Arrested last year, Trenchev began a hunger strike. He was released in September shortly before the CSCE's International Ecological Conference was due to take place in Sofia.

[Gadzinowski] Will you be standing for parliament in the elections?

[Trenchev] This is a matter for our organization to decide.

[Gadzinowski] What happens if the members of Podkrepa put forward your candidacy?

[Trenchev] In the immediate future, namely, on 17-18 March (the interview took place at the beginning of March—PG), our federation will hold its conference. We will define our position on the elections then. In my opinion, there should be a place in the new parliament for people who represent independent trade unions. This is important for the process of democracy in our society. These people should directly participate in drawing up new legislation in order to harmonize the interests of the workers with the law. We have no ambition to be represented in executive bodies. We will throw our support behind those people whose political programs support the interests of our members.

[Gadzinowski] Let us suppose that the Union of Democratic Forces, to which Podkrepa belongs, wins these elections and is charged with the task of forming the next government. Would you accept the Ministry of Labor portfolio?

[Trenchev] I cannot speculate about the future, but I do not think that trade unionists ought to be in government.

[Gadzinowski] I only asked because in Poland the trade unions have also assumed the functions of political parties. This multifunctional approach is often criticized by people who fear that the interests of the working people may thus be compromised by trade union leaders who consequently find themselves in high office.

[Trenchev] When one is confronted by a totalitarian regime, every organization and all trade unions are compelled to become involved politically. I understand the reasons of all those who are critical, but on deeper reflection it must be obvious that the passage from totalitarianism to democracy is a very difficult process. People should understand that "Solidarity" had no choice and has had to become a political party. It may well be that a similar situation might arise in Bulgaria. That is the reason why we should be preparing public opinion for this eventuality by a concerted campaign of information.

[Gadzinowski] Is Podkrepa preparing its own election program?

[Trenchev] Everyone in the Union of Democratic Forces will go into these elections with a common election program. This program has not yet been finalized. The government does not want to give us information on the economic situation of the country. At the moment, therefore, we can only define the general lines of our intended actions.

[Gadzinowski] Having talked to various representatives of the Bulgarian opposition, I have the impression that you all know what you do not want, but at the moment you do not really have a specific alternative program, especially one for the economic sphere. What is your opinion on privatizing industry and agriculture? Does the prospect of unemployment worry you?

[Trenchev] It is true that our concepts are not totally clear, but you see, communism has not only destroyed our economy, but also our minds. We are agreed on the need to introduce privatization and market mechanisms. The problem is how to go about it in practice so that we do not provoke a social upheaval. The Communists fear this, and that is the reason they are not doing anything. By doing nothing, however, they are only deepening the crisis. In Bulgaria, the transition to a market economy will have a highly specific character and will be based on the psychology of our nation. The Bulgarians have not lost their love for the land, and privatization can only help our agriculture. I would like to recall that in the past we were one of the top producers among agricultural countries.

[Gadzinowski] The economic base of the socialist system was heavy industry, which was supported by government subsidies. In the conditions of market economy, many of the enterprises will become insolvent and the employees will become unemployed. Is your federation prepared for such an eventuality?

[Trenchev] Some of the enterprises will be sold off to foreign capital, which will modernize them. Others will have to be closed down. The unemployed will be directed toward agriculture, service industries, and trade. It is probable that we will export our surpluses to the Third World. Quite obviously, we will not have an answer for everything, but we are prepared for problems.

[Gadzinowski] How many members does Podkrepa have?

[Trenchev] More than 100,000.

[Gadzinowski] What sort of support does it have from workers?

[Trenchev] Today we can count on the support of over half of the Bulgarian work force. The decline of our economy is swelling our ranks.

[Gadzinowski] If the Union of Democratic Forces is not successful in the coming elections, will Podkrepa cooperate with the Communist trade unions and the Communist Party?

[Trenchev] As long as I am chairman, there will be no talk of cooperation.

[Gadzinowski] But why? The Bulgarian Communist Party has adopted a democratic program that is not all that different from yours.

[Trenchev] In the Bible it states that a leopard never changes its spots. At the present moment the Communist Party is not defending any ideology; it merely wants to hang on to power. It is trying to manipulate every democratic slogan, but the people have lost their faith in it.

It is hard to say whether we will emerge successful in these elections because the Communists may try to manipulate things. Even if they were to win in this way, this will only lead to further elections and these would be held in very difficult conditions indeed. Should that happen, the opposition would have to defend the Communists from the wrath of the people.

[Gadzinowski] The people are struggling in very difficult conditions. What is the trade union doing to change these?

[Trenchev] We always defend the workers when human rights are infringed upon. In Bulgaria we are currently witnessing many "wildcat" strikes. We are trying to see to it that true compromises take place. Shortly, we hope to begin publishing our own newspaper and in that paper we shall address the problem of work conditions in Bulgaria.

[Gadzinowski] Which political party do you belong to?

[Trenchev] I do not belong to any party. Our statutes forbid our leaders to join any political party.

[Gadzinowski] With which political party would you say you have the most in common?

[Trenchev] The social democratic parties of Western Europe.

[Gadzinowski] In Bulgaria you are often compared to Lech Walesa. Lately, Walesa is being criticized by the extreme youth groups. What would you do if the young people began to demonstrate against you?

[Trenchev] Young people always react emotionally and do not take the trouble to think things through. After a while they may realize what Walesa has done for Poland. For us, "Solidarity" was always our hope. Without Poland and "Solidarity," we would not have a democratic opposition in Bulgaria.

In a democracy everyone has a right to state his opinion, even if that opinion is clearly wrong. I will always defend my opinions.

### Havel Undergoes Surgery in Prague

*LD2603143390 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1400 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] [Announcer] CSSR President Vaclav Havel is in the hospital.

[Correspondent Stanislaw Kaczmarski] The press spokesman of Hradcany Castle informed us an hour ago that President Vaclav Havel has undergone a surgical operation in one of the Prague hospitals. The operation was conducted without complications and the postoperative convalescence is normal.

President Havel will stay in the hospital for a week and then he will take a vacation. All the president's visits and engagements for today have been canceled.

### Dienstbier on Support for Lithuanian Independence

*LD2403090290 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 0500 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Portugal—Jiri Dienstbier, Czechoslovak minister of foreign affairs, who is attending an extraordinary session of the Council of Europe in Lisbon, has said that Czechoslovakia supports Lithuania's efforts to achieve independence but has not yet formally recognized it. Meeting journalists, he expressed his approval of both sides' attitude that this issue should be resolved peacefully.

### Civic Forum Urges Respect for Lithuania

*LD2303215390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2100 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The Civic Forum Coordinating Center in Prague adopted a stand on the situation in Lithuania. It voiced the conviction that respecting the right of the Lithuanian nation to self-determination will strengthen the international authority and credibility of the representatives of the Soviet Union. The Civic Forum Coordinating Center in Prague regards as unjustifiable any restrictions and threat of force aimed against nations' endeavors to exercise their right of self-determination and resolutely protests against it.

### CTK Correspondent Denied Tickets to Vilnius

*LD2303202390 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1900 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The Soviet Union: A Moscow-based Czechoslovak News Agency (CTK) correspondent today was not allowed to buy a train ticket or air ticket to travel to Vilnius.

Employees of the administration of diplomatic services told him that they had received instructions not to sell these tickets because the situation in Lithuania is dangerous. According to sources at the press center of the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, a proper decree on trips of foreign journalists to Lithuania is to be published tonight. Those who are currently there are allegedly to be allowed to stay there for the time being.

### Defense Official on Compensation for Soviet Damage

*LD2203210390 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Major General (Svetozar Nadevic), chief of the directorate of the Federal Ministry of National Defense for the supervision of the withdrawal of Soviet troops, met journalists in Prague today. Editor Vaclav Valek asked him the following questions:

[Begin recording] [Valek] The Soviet Army is leaving its bases in a rather poor state of repair. We are convinced of this from past reports. The bases have been damaged by oil pollution, and an average of about 30,000 korunas will be required to repair each apartment to make it habitable again. Will you be satisied with this or will you demand certain, for instance, financial, compensation?

[(Nadevic)] According to the intergovernmental agreement, which was signed by Foreign Ministers Shevardnadze and Dienstbier, it has been made clear in individual articles that all these matters will receive compensation and that the Soviet side will have to pay such compensation.

[Valek] There is talk among the general public about the possible removal of the Ministry of National Defense to Milovica. What is the truth?

[(Nadevic)] I personally know nothing about it, but I believe that if all the ministries of the Czechoslovak Republic are in Prague, the Ministry of National Defense should be too.

[Valek] Do you have in this regard at least some idea about what to do with Milovice in the future, because it contains a military airport. It is in effect a military town. How is it going to be used in the future?

[(Nadevic] I am convinced that the entire Milovice area, which has been a military area since 1905, an area where troops are trained, will be used in a similar way in the present period, and the period in which our troops will take over this area following the departure of the Soviet troops is very brief. [end recording]

### Trade, Cooperation Accord With EC in Brussels

*LD2303222190 Prague Television Service in Czech 2100 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] A short while ago we received this news: An agreement on trade and cooperation between the EC and Czechoslovakia was initialed in Brussels today [21 March]. The document gives the Czechoslovak side easier access to the common market and to advanced technology.

### CTK Reports Sacher Visit With FBI's Sessions

*LD2403233190 Prague CTK in English 1605 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Washington March 23 (CTK Correspondent)—Czechoslovak Interior Minister Richard Sacher was the first interior minister from former Eastern bloc countries to visit the FBI headquarters on Thursday.

He told CTK of his meeting with FBI Director William Sessions that the changes in Czechoslovakia's policy towards the United States cannot remain at the level of declarations but must be reflected in a specific way in all spheres including security policy. Minister Sacher stressed the need to pass from the old approach to the United States as an enemy to seeking forms and methods of cooperation with this country, part of which should be also cooperation between security bodies.

"We have prepared for U.S. partners concrete suggestions for cooperation in the struggle against international crime, terrorism and drug traffic, in the protection of nuclear installations, against forgery and in the extradition of persons in serious cases," the minsiter said and added that U.S. partners voiced full understanding for Czechoslovak proposals which should become the foundation for concluding bilateral agreements in the near future.

A similar range of questions was on the agenda of Minister Sacher's talks with representatives of the U.S. State department. The talks also dealt with questions of lifting restrictions on exports of U.S. strategic goods to Czechoslovakia, imposed within the framework of COCOM.

Richard Sacher is expected to have talks also with Central Intelligence Agency Director William Webster today.

### Dienstbier Attends Council of Europe Meeting

*LD2403111490 Prague Television Service in Czech 2100 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier attended the extraordinary session of the foreign ministers of the 23 Council of Europe states in Lisbon today. The main topic of the talks is the future order of the European continent in the wake of developments in East Europe.

### Council of Europe Membership Prospects

*LD2403214690 Prague Television Service in Czech 1730 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] A two-day session of the Council of Europe ended in Lisbon today. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Mr. Minister, the meeting has ended. How satisfied are you with its outcome? What has it brought for us, Czechoslovakia?

[Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier] This was, among other things, an opportunity for me to attend a meeting of the Council of Europe. We have requested at this meeting that Czechoslovakia be granted full membership in the Council of Europe, and I believe that it will not be a big problem for us to gain such membership. We received immediate support from French Foreign Minister Dumas. I believe that this is very important because the Council of Europe is likely to be the first institution to become a truly all- European one and could therefore be the first institution to bring us closer to the unification of Europe. [end recording]

### Further on Council of Europe Membership

*LD2503103490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0830 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Minister of Foreign Affairs Jiri Dienstbier said that Czechoslovakia has been promised special guest status in the Council of Europe. In an interview with the Czechoslovak news agency, he pointed out that the Council of Europe is the first international institution which could become truly all-European. Preconditions for our membership in the Council of Europe, for which we applied yesterday, are free elections, a pluralistic system, the free flow of information, and other conditions. Minister Dienstbier at the same time drew attention to the fact that approval procedures in the parliaments of all the member states could cause a delay.

### Havel: French, UK Aid Offers Exceed Expectations

*LD2303001590 Prague Television Service in Czech 1830 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Interview with President Vaclav Havel by unidentified reporter aboard presidential flight returning from visit to France and Great Britain on 23 March—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Mr President, what were the main goals of your visits to France and Great Britain, and how far do you think they were achieved?

[Havel] There were two main goals: first, to discuss everything linked with our bilateral relations; and second, to discuss the future of Europe, to compare our standpoints, our views, our initiatives, to exchange information on them because events in Europe are happening so fast that we all have to continuously consider not only the problems of our country but also the international context, as it is of paramount importance for us at this time. Therefore, we make many foreign trips, although we try to make them as short as possible. The future of our country, more than of any other country, depends on the future of Europe; that is understandable given our geographical position.

[Reporter] Your visits to France and Great Britain came almost immediately in the wake of Richard von Weizsaecker's visit to Prague. The visit to Prague by the federal president, as you said yourself, symbolized a kind of opposite pole of the Germany that we knew in 1939.

In this connection, can your visits to France and Great Britain be interpreted as putting a full stop to the chapter of Czechoslovak history dating from September 1938?

[Havel] Our visits were building, above all, on the traditionally good relations of friendship with France and Great Britain. As for the subject of Munich, that is dealt with in what we might call the standpoints on Munich when we discussed the subject with President Mitterrand and Mrs. Thatcher, and it cannot be ruled out that some kind of tangible, complete stop will yet be made to this chapter.

[Reporter] Mr. President, it has become a little unusual for two statesmen—and I am referring to you and Mrs. Thatcher now—to meet, to exchange views on a specific issue, the restructuring of Europe, to completely fail to agree with one another, and to publicly admit this fact. What is the point of that?

[Havel] I do not really know why the press conclude that we agreed or failed to agree. As far as I know, no one from the press was present at the talks with Mrs. Thatcher—neither at the first meeting, which lasted about an hour and half, nor at the dinner which lasted about two-and-a-half hours—so they are apparently basing their assessment mainly on the toast given by Prime Minister Thatcher or on other peripheral signals, surely.

[Reporter] Well, in Great Britain, all the media believe that Mrs. Thatcher takes the view that Helsinki is a marvelous thing, but it does not mean that NATO and the U.S. troops do not have a role to play at this, quote, time of uncertainty and change in Europe, unquote.

[Havel] Well, on Mrs. Thatcher's view, it would be better for you to hear her tell you about it herself, because if I were to tell you about it it would be second-hand. I can only say that our view of the whole issue of Europe—the future composition of Europe—and our relevant initiatives were received with great understanding, and we had the chance to discuss this in much greater detail with the foreign secretary, Mr. Hurd, than with the prime minister.

[Reporter] In your interview for LE MONDE, you stressed that for the countries of Central and East Europe to return to Europe, it will be necessary, among other things, for the institutions which have up to now been strictly West European ones to open up. Can you outline in this context any specific time frame, for example, for Czechoslovakia to become a member of the EC?

[Havel] Regarding the EC, every sensible and well-informed person must ackknowledge that we cannot be accepted just like that right now, but there are various sorts of zones around the EC, which are opening up to us and will probably continue to do so much more quickly, and we will have access to these just as we will to many other European institutions which are beginning to grasp the need to open up to those countries that are returning to Europe.

Perhaps I should conclude by mentioning something which you have not asked me, which is that we also had talks with leading industrialists in addition to those with the premiers and government officials, and we were surprised at the extraordinary offers made to us both in France and Great Britain—it is precisely in these spheres that, in our view, Czechoslovakia needs cooperation most—and these offers are all much more extensive than we ourselves had hoped for and expected. Now is not the time for me to go into details about facts and figures.

[Reporter] Thank you.

## Havel Reviews France, UK Visit

*LD2503155790*

[Editorial Report] Prague Domestic Service in Czech at 1205 GMT on 25 March, in its "Conversation in Lany" program, broadcasts a 23-minute recorded interview with President Vaclav Havel by (Ota Nut). The program begins with Havel recalling his visits to France and Great Britain and sharing his impressions about the attention paid to ceremony in France and about the spirit of informality in the UK.

Answering a question on the current debate about the republic's name, he stresses that the issue should be taken seriously and hopes it will be decided at the Federal Assembly session on Tuesday, 27 March. In this context he points out the need for professionalism, which is lacking, for example, in a letter from the Czechoslovak Socialist Party addressed to him and published in the 25 March edition of SVOBODNE SLOVO, which, in fact misinterpreted the second variant of his proposal for the republic's name.

He appreciates the wide range of offers received during his trip to France and Great Britain. We should, of course, avoid getting into debt, he says, pointing out that these offers can allow us to catch up with technological progress. France offered to take care of the security of our nuclear power stations, for example, he says. The significance of state visits is above all in establishing these contacts and getting to know possibilities.

Havel goes on to speak about the possible reasons why Czechoslovakia receives so many good offers: its economic and political situation is really rather stable, its revolution was the most peaceful, and thanks to that we enjoy trust abroad. It is very important not to miss this opportunity, he stresses.

Europe now has a real chance to become united, Havel says. There is a need to react to historical developments—especially given Czechoslovakia's position in Central Europe. This is yet another reason for so many state visits and diplomatic initiatives carried out by Czechoslovak officials. Havel concludes by stressing the need of everyday self- reflection in our political life.

## CEMA Currency Agreements Cause Economic Losses

*AU2303134190 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 22 Mar 90 p 3*

[Interview with Miluse Bajciova, Czechoslovak State Bank official, by Marta Csontosova; place and date not given: "When Inflation Represents an Advantage"—first paragraph is PRAVDA introduction]

[Excerpts] Reports have appeared lately that Czechoslovakia intends to withdraw from multilateral international agreements [with CEMA partners] on noncommercial payments. [passage omitted] We asked Miluse Bajciova, chief desk officer at the head office of the Czechoslovakia State Bank, why it is unacceptable for our financiers and our banking system to implement these agreements and to abide by them.

[Bajciova] According to those agreements, the exchange rate of each currency is to be modified in case of a five-percent change of goods-and-services retail prices. Those changes, however—due to the widening differences in the state of supplies and variety on the domestic market in individual countries, but also due to price differences and their steep increase—cannot be reflected in exchange rates on time. The fact that both sides must agree to a change in the exchange rate puts the countries with higher inflation at an advantage. To keep the unrealistic exchange rate it is enough to refuse to approve its change. Today Czechoslovakia has a permanent trade surplus with all [CEMA] partners, with the exception of Hungary (and Vietnam), and individual tourism with CEMA countries, for example, has become an area of large losses, due to the existing exchange rates. Each transferable rouble we earn from tourism costs us 15 korunas; whereas the commercial exchange rate of the transferable rouble is 9 korunas.

The binding provisions of the interstate agreements have their negative effect also at present, during the speculative purchases of East German marks; according to the valid agreements, the Czechoslovak side has no possibility to set an internal exchange rate. At least some regulatory provisions are under preparation, aimed at limiting the sale of marks to 4,500 korunas per person per year. This provision will probably be combined with a certain markup in korunas to the valid exchange rate of the East German mark. A Czechoslovak tourist would then pay 5.50 korunas for 1 mark instead of three korunas. In this way the current advantage of exchanging approximately 5 East German marks for 1 West German mark would be completely eliminated.

## Komarek Explains Invitation of Pinochet

*AU2303133590 Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech 21 Mar 90 p 5*

["tin"-signed report on interview with V. Komarek, CSSR first deputy premier, in New York on 19 March: "Talking With V. Komarek in New York"]

[Excerpt] V. Komarek, CSSR first deputy premier, arrived Monday [19 March] in New York from his trip to South America. According to information provided by B. Studynka, who is accompanying him, our small delegation is awaiting extraordinarily significant talks with financial tycoons of the famous Wall Street. Immediately upon his arrival in New York, V. Komarek gave a short interview to MLADA FRONTA.

[MLADA FRONTA] The invitation of General Pinochet to Czechoslovakia caused a big commotion. How do you respond to that?

[Komarek] Within the framework of protocol, all delegations [attending the inauguration of Chilean President Aylwin], including left-wing ones, also went to salute the resigning President Pinochet. That is, not only our delegation, but also U.S. Vice President Quayle, Argentina's President Menem, or Portuguese President Soares, who definitely cannot be suspected of undemocratic attitudes. It is necessary to emphasize that a significant portion of the Chilean population, contrary to what we believe, still celebrates Pinochet as a man who prepared a peaceful process of transition of power. Despite our condemnation of all political violence, we have to formally respect the customs of a country with which—and I stress this— we have resumed diplomatic ties. I personally believe that it is not only the Cuba-controlled LA PRENSA press agency but also other sources which have their share in the conveying of a distorted piece of information to the CTK press agency. [passage omitted]

## CPCZ Not Preparing To Restore Power Monopoly

*LD2403210490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1430 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] At the third session of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia [CPCZ] Central Committee, First Secretary Vasil Mohorita stressed that the party considers it necessary to preserve a certain work collective influence on management in all forms of entrepreneurship. He rejected notions that the CPCZ is preparing to restore a power monopoly.

He also condemned passionate discussions about the name of our state and state emblem and pointed out that such changes could lead to unforeseeable results if nationalistic sentiments increase.

## Mohorita Addresses CPCZ Central Committee

*LD2503055690 Prague CTK in English 1245 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Prague March 24 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] leader Vasil Mohorita said today the party will support everything that leads to the development of society, and all that will mean constant pressure on employers to cooperate with employees and enable them to share in decision-making about their life and work.

Speaking at the third Communist Party Central Committee meeting, the party first secretary said the party considers it necessary to maintain a certain influence of work collectives on management in various forms of enterprise.

Condemning emotional debates about the future name of Czechoslovakia and about the state emblem, Vasil Mohorita said that if nationalistic moods are escalated these debates may lead to unforeseeable ends. At the time when integration trends in Europe strengthen, a victory of separatism in Czechoslovakia would be a paradox. The club of Communist deputies in parliament will act with prudence and follow the interest of the whole republic.

Mohorita said the party is generally well prepared for the coming pre-election period but rejects opinions that it is planning a restoration of power monopoly. Growing anticommunism is connected with the sharpening of the pre-election struggle. The present campaign against the Communist Party is not only a new attempt at historical revenge against one party, it is an attempt at excluding a large part of the population from politics, an attempt to liquidate the left, Vasil Mohorita stated.

### CPCZ Expels Former Ministers Chnoupek, Vajnar

*LD2503151990 Prague CTK in English 1348 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Prague March 25 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Communist Party Central Committee expelled Bohuslav Chnoupek, former foreign minister, and Vratislav Vajnar, former interior minister, from the party.

At its 3rd session here Saturday, the central committee charged a commission considering political responsibilities with deciding whether or not to expel former CTK Director General Otto Cmolik from the party.

### Opposition to Armed Forces TU Ban Noted

*LD2403233990 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] The presidium of the General Council of the Czechoslovak Trade Union confederation has rejected the plan of the constitutional and legal committees of both chambers of the Federal Assembly to recommend to the Assembly a legal ban of trade union activity of Armed Forces members and thereby also of National Security corps members. In its statement the presidium points out that agreements with the leadership of all ministry departments respect the principle that the powers vested in commanders are indivisible and that members of the National Security Corps have given up their right to strike. The existence of police trade unions is a normal practice in all advanced democratic states. [passage omitted]

### Social Democratic Party Congress Begins 24 Mar

*LD2503050890 Prague CTK in English 1123 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Prague March 24 (CTK)—Pre-election tactics, an election program and other issues connected with the restoration of the party's activities are on the agenda of a two-day congress of the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party, which opened here Saturday [24 March].

The main task of the congress is to decide whether the party takes part in the June parliamentary elections as an independent political force or whether it will make use of the candidacy of the Civic Forum, the political movement embracing opponents of the Communist regime in Czechoslovakia. The party's election program is based on social certainties, democracy, the freedoms of man and cooperation in Europe, development of a multiparty system and radical simplification of state administration.

Attending the congress are 16 foreign delegations, e.g. of the Socialist International, the West German SPD [Social Democratic Party], the Austrian Socialist Party and the British Labour Party.

Founded in 1878, the Czechoslovak Social Democratic Party is the oldest political party. In 1948 it was forced to merge with the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia whereby it virtually ceased to exist. It renewed its existence on November 27, 1989 and was registered on February 9 as a political party. Its present membership is 12,000

### Pan-European Union Assembly Held in Slovakia

*LD2503075490 Prague CTK in English 1654 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Bratislava March 24 (CTK)—The first general assembly of the founding members of the Pan-European Union in Slovakia took place here today, with President of the Pan-European Union Otto von Habsburg attending.

Chairman of the Pan-European Union in Slovakia Dusan Janota said in his address that in its activities the union will pursue the ideas of humanism, tolerance, understanding and cooperation between nations.

Otto von Habsburg said that Central European countries now had a unique opportunity to become equal partners of the Community of European Nations.

### Dubcek Supports 'Movement Against Violence'

*LD2503082690 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] [Announcer] Representatives of the Public Against Violence movement from all districts of Slovakia met in Banska Bystrica today at their fourth Slovak assembly. Lubos Krno, our reporter, has more details:

[Krno, in Slovak] Today's meeting of the Slovak assembly of the Public Against Violence movement—the first meeting held outside Bratislava—basically dealt with two issues: the movement's program and its election strategy.

Representatives of the movement's Slovak council informed the meeting about the five basic tenets of the movement's program for Slovakia's spiritual, national, ethnic, civic, political, economic, and ecological renewal. The movement is, however, keeping specific details of these basic tenets under wraps as its trump cards. It however wants to conduct its election strategy in a positive spirit, and this was stressed by the representatives of the movement's Slovak council, Fedor (Gal), Lubomir (Solzek) and Peter Zajac. This means that its campaign should not be conducted against the other political parties but should concentrate on the movement's own political program. This principle, however, met with disapproval from some radical delegates. However, Mr. Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the Federal Assembly and a distinguished guest who came to the meeting of the assembly shortly after noon, took a distinctive stance in his speech. he said, among other things:

[Begin Dubcek recording, in Slovak] What is the situation as I see it right now and above all? We must admit that there has been a certain decline in the influence of the forces that were in the cradle of our revolution. I would like to say that this is because we have entered a period of general and everyday work, and the question of the implementation of policy tasks and slogans is always far more difficult and complicated.

There has been a great deal of talk that our road to new democracy may be put at risk. I will tell you sincerely that there is no such force which would be capable of putting the clock back. If nonetheless matters do not develop as we want them to develop, I believe that you will agree with me when I say that this will be the consequence either of our not having taken the right steps or because we have not been able to win people over to our side. If we do not win them over, then I beg you to understand that we cannot replace people, but people can replace us. If we do not have the backing of the people, I beg you not to attempt to claim that we are the ones with the most correct ideas, that we are the ones who want the best for you, but that it is you, the people, who do not understand us. These are matters which I believe we all have experienced together. [end recording]

[Krno] Mr Alexander Dubcek thus gave his unequivocal support to the election strategy proposed by the movement's Slovak council based on the need for tolerance and for winning people over. He also rejected some proposals aimed at the total dissolution of farm cooperatives when he said that the farming sector is one of Czechoslovakia's most stable sector despite many negative factors. At the request of the Public against Violence assembly, he expressed his willingness to stand in the coming elections as a candidate of the movement. [end recording]

### Decisions of 14 Mar Parliament Session

*AU2203102290*

[Editorial Report] Prague LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE in Czech on 15 March on pages 1 and 3, Prague MLADA FRONTA in Czech on 15 March on pages 1 and 2, and Prague PRACE in Czech on 15 March on pages 1 and 2 carry correspondents' reports, ranging between 1,000 and 2,000 words, on the 25th joint meeting of both Federal Assembly chambers held in Prague on 14 March. The reports provide the following information:

Reporting on the first item on the agenda—the amendment to the defense law—the Prague PRACE report specifies that the amendment removes the obligation for Army members to ask military administration bodies for consent for travel abroad. The LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE report mentions that the approved defense law also provides for the delay, or suspension, of active military service for deputies to legislative bodies for the duration of their term of office; for a ban on calling up trade union functionaries during a strike or a strike alert; as well as for a ban on calling up functionaries or candidates of political parties and movements during election campaigns.

Reporting on the second item on the agenda—the law on civilian service—the MLADA FRONTA report states that civilian service will be carried out by Czechoslovak citizens whose "religion or moral conviction" prevents them from carrying out active military service. Civilian service will take the form of "auxiliary work in nonprofit organizations in the spheres of health care, social work, environmental protection, eliminating the consequences of natural disasters, and in other generally beneficial activities." Civilian service will last 1.5 times longer than regular military service; i.e., 27 months or 13.5 months in the case of university graduates, and the duty to carry out civilian service will concern citizens from 18 to 38 years of age. The LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE report stresses that, in response to the objection of deputies of the Czechoslovak People's Party, the Christian Democratic Movement, the Freedom Party, and the Christian Democratic Party that "no commission is qualified to judge the religious or moral convictions of a citizen," the approved version of the law on civilian service does contain the provision, to be found in the original draft, that candidates for civilian service will have to present their case to a commission of the relevant district national committee.

According to the LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE report, at its 14 March session the Federal Assembly also approved a law which "sets out the new text of the military oath of conscripts and of the service oath of members of the National Security Corps and the Corrective Education Corps, changes the name Czechoslovak People's Army to Czechoslovak Army, and extends the annual leave of conscripts to 15 days per 9 months of service." This law (the name of which is not given) also establishes that "in the event of an attack by force against the CSSR constitutional system, the minister of interior requires the consent of the minister of national defense to call up soldiers in active service." On the basis of deputies' comments, the LIDOVA DEMOKRACIE report continues, the approved law also contains the provision that "career soldiers will have to take their military oath anew; if they refuse to do so, the minister of national defense will release them from service."

Finally, as the last point on its agenda, the 14 March session of the Federal Assembly discussed and approved by a majority of votes a motion by a group of deputies calling on the Federal Government to "draw up a law on the expropriation of illicitly obtained property of political parties, movements and social organizations." According to Petr Kucera, a deputy for the Civic Norum, who presented the motion, the law should concern property acquired between 1 January 1948 and 31 December 1989. Simultaneously with this motion, the deputies also approved a motion by Vasil Mohorita, first secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, that a parliamentary commission be set up to look into the financial relationship between the state and political parties.

## Defense Ministry Spokesman on Parliament Issues

*AU2303221390*

[Editorial Report] Several newspapers published on 22 March report on a news conference with Colonel Petr Tax, "press attache" of the Federal Ministry of National Defense, held in Prague on 21 March.

According to a 200-word CTK report carried by Bratislava ROLNICKE NOVINY in Slovak on 22 March on page 2, Tax "briefed journalists about an order issued by the minister of national defense on 15 March 1990, in which Colonel General Miroslav Vacek responded to the laws passed by the two chambers of parliament [on 14 March]. In the order he bans any involvement by active soldiers (with the exception of soldiers called up for exercises) in any political party, visits to membership meetings, and the payment of membership dues." According to the CTK report, Tax also told the news conference that career soldiers who refuse to take the newly approved oath will be dismissed from the Army.

Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 22 March on page 3 carries a 500- word Alena Borovickova report on the same news conference. According to Borovickova, Tax announced that the Ministry of Defense will soon publish a brochure, which will contain a number of currently "secret facts" about the Czechoslovak Army, including the cost of maneuvers and of military hardware and the location of Army units. Asked about the publication of the Army's budget, Tax reportedly told the news conference that the Ministry of Defense "will do its utmost for it to be published, but the ultimate decision rests with the premier."

Petr Tax is also quoted on the state of rehabilitation of Army members who had been dismissed in the past for political reasons. According to the Bratislava PRAVDA report, of the 300 officers who have applied for readmission, 30 have returned to the Army to date. In addition, officers who had been "undeservedly" stripped of their military rank are getting them restored. These include Emil Zatopek, the Olympic champion, and Alexander Dubcek, chairman of the Federal Assembly, who has been promoted to the rank of reserve colonel.

## Klaus on State Enterprises Draft Law

*AU2303150490*

[Editorial Report] Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech No. 17 on 3 March carries a 1,000-word "open letter" from three managers of the Skoda concern to government members Komarek, Dlouhy, and Klaus, in which the authors express their reservations about the draft law on the state enterprise, particularly about the fact that it does not provide for the autonomy of state enterprises. Prague LIDOVE NOVINY in Czech No. 19 on 10 March publishes a 1,600-word "open reply" from CSSR Finance Minister Vaclav Klaus to the Skoda managers' letter. Disagreements between the Skoda management and Finance Minister Klaus are also the subject of press reports on the finance minister's visit to the Skoda headquarters in Plzen on 21 March.

In his reply to the Skoda managers' letter, Klaus first welcomes the authors' concern about the new law and concedes that an "unsuitable legal norm could prevent rational conduct of our enterprise sphere for a long time to come." He mentions that the Ministry of Finance itself has "reservations" about the existing draft because it believes that "a new law on the state enterprise should not be formulated as long as there is no consensus, at least at the government level, on the further fate of the property which is today included in the all-encompassing concept of socialist social ownership." Klaus attributes the lack of consensus on this issue within the government to the fact that "the questions of property have caught us somewhat unprepared, because only a few months ago it was impossible to discuss them."

Klaus goes on to say that the new law on state enterprises must respect the principle of the equal status of all forms of ownership and, at the same time, be applicable to the present situation when "virtually all economic activity is performed by state enterprises."

The minister continues: "In its present form, the draft law does not meet these demands. The fictitious notion about the autonomy and self-financing of state enterprises is laid bare as soon as the minister of finance hints at a reduction, even a minimal one, in subsidies from the state budget. State enterprises have been tied to the state budget by the umbilical cord of central planning and central price-setting. The law on state enterprises should not obfuscate this by hackneyed terms such as 'full-fledged economic accountability.' Instead, it should proceed from the full truth about the relationship between the founder and the enterprise; that is, between the ministry and the enterprise director or, more accurately, between the minister of finance and the enterprise director. This truth is, roughly, that with present prices and present laws it is virtually impossible to make an enterprise fully and absolutely accountable for its economic results. One can repeat ad infinitum the well-known arguments about who is to blame—whether it is the enterprise director who does not look after the enterprise entrusted to him; the price office, which did not approve 'the right prices'; or the Ministry of Finance, which made the enterprise surrender too high a profit share.

"The new government must and wants to do away with the conditions making possible such bargaining between the center and enterprises. The only way to achieve this, as I see it, is the institutionalized separation of the government from the economic sphere. This separation cannot be carried out without a new definition of the relationship with the ownership of the means of production.

"This idea on its own does not mean privatization as yet. And still less can it be confused with the return of the nationalized property to its former owners, which would be neither feasible nor desirable. Our concept of the definition of ownership rights (and a subsequent privatization, whose extent will be determined by a political decision) essentially means only one thing—the transition of at least some existing state enterprises to joint stock companies and the distribution of some of the shares of these enterprises among the population or, in some cases, if appropriate, among the work force of these enterprises under preferential terms."

At the close of his reply, Klaus explains the reasons for his opposition to enterprise autonomy: "In my opinion, the so-called participation of the work force in management can only have a positive impact on economic performance if the work force simultaneously has a stake in the ownership of what it manages. The principle of the so-called self-management without a share in ownership is very problematic and risky. The new government should not experiment with it, in my opinion. The reasons for this are manifold, with the most cogent one being historical experience with the very low efficiency of self-managed enterprises (in Yugoslavia, for example, but also elsewhere)."

Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak on 22 March on page 2 carries a 300- word CTK report on a visit by Minister Klaus to the Plzen headquarters of the Skoda concern on 21 March. According to the report, the Skoda management confronted the minister with demands for a 2.3 billion [currency unspecified] subsidy from the state budget to overcome its financial problems, caused mostly by the cancelation of orders for nuclear reactors. Klaus reportedly "recommended to the enterprise that it look for a solution in diversification [of its production program] and in financial policy. At the same time he warned against attempts at intervention in the center, as practiced in the past. 'No one will get an extra koruna,' the keeper of the treasury declared. 'You demand 2.3 billion korunas. For the state's coffers this is too much, but people have savings totaling more than 330 billion korunas. Go and try to get financial funds from them,' Vaclav Klaus said." According to a 100-word report on the same meeting, published in Prague PRACE in Czech on 22 March on page 1, Klaus recommended that the Skoda concern organize a "campaign for nuclear power" in the polluted parts of the country and that it try to finance its nuclear program from the sale of bonds to the public.

## Calfa Discusses Government's First 100 Days

*LD2203105490 Prague International Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] My colleague Helena Markusova went to see Czechoslovak Federal Premier Marian Calfa and she asked him what he would tell his colleague from a country which has a long-standing tradition of a developed parliamentary democracy about the first 100 days of attempts to achieve something which has no parallel in history—that is, a transition from a totalitarian regime to a democratic one.

[Begin Calfa recording in Slovak, fading to superimposed English translation] I am sure my colleague from a country which has a tradition of a developed parliamentary democracy would have considerable difficulty understanding your question. On 10 December 1989, we launched in fact a world premiere, an absolute experiment—that is, to coordinate the transition from a certain system based on the communist principle of one party monopoly with a strict centralized management to a country which would function on the principle of pluralistic democracy, in both political and economic spheres.

Obviously, 100 days is quite a short period of time for achieving this goal. I would describe these 100 days as a period of mapping out the situation in the country. It was not easy to learn objectively about the situation in Czechoslovakia in all spheres, especially because that kind of information which we would need is simply not available, the previous information system was (?built) on the principle of the filtering of information and that, first of all, we had to cleanse the flow of information in order to get to know the actual state of the economy in all spheres.

Then we had to replace officials at all levels. Unfortunately, this process is not yet finished. While the rotation of cadres was more or less completed in the central organs, the situation in this respect is far from optimistic at the grass-root level. The replacement of officials meant in any case the interruption of the flow of information because logically any discredited top (?league) leaving their positions were not interests in leaving behind the wealth of information which would be valuable for their successors. But still, I think we had already obtained some important information for us to be able to draw up a plan for the measures to be taken to improve the situation.

Now, after 100 days in office, the Government of National Accord is involved with debate on what concrete steps, what direction to take, because from the very start our goal was a better life for the people in Czechoslovakia.

We would not like to destabilize the social situation, but, on the other hand, some rather energetic steps will have to be taken. That should bring our economic system toward a prosperous market economy.

In the political sphere we have been preparing a package of laws, such as the electoral law or the basic institutions of the pluralist system: the right of assembly or the right of petition, and others. And this should cause our people to see the light at the end of the black tunnel to which our country has been hurdling.

So that, if my colleague from a country with a tradition of a parliamentary democracy understood me, he would understand the difficult situation our country is in. He would understand that the building of a state with all the democratic features is an exceptionally difficult affair. He would understand that one must proceed deliberately and with a great deal of patience, said Czechoslovak Federal Prime Minister Marian Calfa. [end recording]

## Poll Registers Confidence in Current Government

*LD2103230990 Bratislava Domestic Service in Slovak 1730 GMT 20 Mar 90*

[Text] The results of a Institute of Public Opinion survey has revealed that as many as 88 percent of respondents from the selected representative group of 1,325 Czechoslovak citizens have confidence in President Vaclav Havel; 83 percent have confidence in the federal government; and 76 percent in the Federal Assembly. On the other hand, a lack of confidence prevailed in the assessment of the national committees, for as many as 57 percent of those asked expressed a negative attitude toward their activities.

## 15,000 Mark 1988 Demonstration in Bratislava

*AU2503182290 Vienna Television Service in German 1730 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Yesterday evening, 15,000 people demonstrated in Bratislava in Czechoslovakia to commemorate the Bratislava Good Friday of 1988. Exactly two years ago, the first major demonstration for religious freedom and human rights was brutally crushed by the Bratislava police force.

## Christian Democrats Leave Civic Forum Platform

*LD2503075190 Prague CTK in English 1530 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Prague March 24 (CTK)—The Christian Democratic Party said today it is leaving the platform of the Civic Forum, the movement associating opponents of the communist regime which headed the drive for democratic changes and a multi-party system, and will contest parliamentary seats in the June election separately.

Election strategies were high on the agenda of the party's first congress here today. Least support was given to a proposal for joint action with the Czechoslovak People's Party, and neither did the proposal to set up a broad coalition of all Christian forces (the Christian Democratic Party, the People's Party and the Slovak Christian Democratic Movement) win the necessary number of votes. [sentence as received]

## New Science, Technology Union Founded

*LD2503094190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0200 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] The delegates at yesterday's extraordinary congress of the Czech organization of the Czechoslovak Scientific and Technical Society objectively assessed developments and supported current political changes aimed at developing democracy and free, creative thinking in the field of science and technology.

They concluded the society's activity in the Czech Republic and the activities of all its organs and, at the same time, founded a new organization with the working name: Czech Union of Scientific and Technical Societies. The new Czech organization will continue to work as a nonpolitical organization concentrating on a high level of expertise.

## New Czech Government Weekly To Be Published

*LD2203065790 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 2000 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] Beginning in the second half of this year, the Czech Government will publish its own weekly called CESKA POLITIKA [CZECH POLITICS]. This was announced to journalists at a news conference by Milan Kasik, head of the Czech Government press department, who also outlined the agenda for today's Czech Government session, at which Jaroslav Bocek, the minister of forestry and timber-processing industry, reported that a state of emergency had been declared in Czech forests. This was the result of major storm damage estimated at 10 million cubic meters of fallen timber.

The government also agreed today to continue wage incentives for employees in selected sectors in border areas and towns after this year. Last year this incentive varied between 150 korunas and 1,000 korunas per employee per month.

## Democrats, Liberals Plan New Bratislava Paper

*LD2503230590 Prague Domestic Service in Slovak 1930 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Representatives of the Party of Independent Democrats and the Liberal-Democratic Party agreed in Bratislava today on publishing a joint weekly newspaper NEZAVISLE NOVINY [Independent Newspaper]. They also assessed the state of preparations for the elections in which both parties will enter in a coalition with other centrist parties.

## Independent Cable TV To Broadcast in Pribram

*LD2503201490 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1630 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Summary] Reporter Alena Millerova spoke to Karel Havlicek, Stanislav Ficek, and Martin Faltyn in the basement of a Pribram apartment block about their small independent television studio. They have belonged to an organization called Videotechnology Club [Klub videotechniky] for some time and because of members' keen interest, they have now set up their studio thanks to cable. They expect to compete with the national television network in reporting local Pribram events. They will begin broadcasting on 2 April 1990 largely prerecorded material, but there will be some live broadcasts. The city and regional national committee in Pribram welcomes the start of cable television as it will extend information and dialogue with the citizens, the reporter notes.

## TV Replaces East Bloc Program With Entertainment

*LD2403000790 Prague CTK in English 1351 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Prague March 23 (CTK)—Czechoslovak television will broadcast a 40-minute program from the production of world TV corporations called "Satellite" for the first time today. It will replace the former joint program of Czechoslovak, Soviet, Polish and Bulgarian televisions called intersignal.

"Satellite" will be an informative entertainment program above all for viewers who do not have the possibility to watch foreign satellite broadcasts.

In 1989 Czechoslovak television was watched by 190 minutes daily on average, during the weekends even 340 mionutes (153 minutes in West Germany, 121 in Austria, 139 in Belgium and 112 minutes in Denmark). The high average time was not increased in the course of the rapid social changes at the end of last year. In consequence of superfluity of information Czechoslovak television viewers call this year for more entertainment programs.

## French Program To Broadcast on Vltana Frequencies

*LD2203212190 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Listeners in Prague and the surrounding areas will be able to listen on the former Vltava station frequencies, starting Monday [26 March], to the French program of the Europe-Plus radio station. Karel Stary, the director of Czechoslovak Radio's department for foreign relations, along with representatives from the French side, briefed journalists on the plans for the new broadcast. The digital signal is to be transmitted from Paris via satellite. Music, especially French music but also advertisements and information about culture, tourism, transport, and weather, are to form the content of the broadcast. The station wants to accommodate the taste of Czechoslovak listeners and will also include Anglo-Saxon music. As of 1 May, the program is to be presented in Czech. At present it is necessary to prepare suitable technical facilities and select suitable presenters. It is planned to gradually extend transmission coverage to the entire territory of Czechoslovakia.

## Statement Issued on Screening of Deputies

*LD2303204190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1936 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Today's statement on the screening of People's Chamber deputies has the following text:

1. Those authorized by and those representing the government have learned about the letter of 22 March 1990 from the state prosecutor general to the parties and voters alliances elected to the People's Chamber. According to the legal standpoint of the state prosecutor general, the planned screening does not lie within the competence of the government representatives and those authorized by the government for the disbanding of the former Ministry of State Security. The screening of those representatives elected to the People's Chamber is to be decided only by the People's Chamber itself. The state prosecutor general will, therefore, not appoint a representative for the planned screening.

2. By 1700 on 23 March 1990, not all of the parties and voters alliances represented in the future People's Chamber had stated their agreement to the proposal of 21 March 1990 by those authorized by the government and the government representatives.

3. The way things are the majority of those authorized by the government and those representing the government are of the opinion that as of now parliament should carry out the screening as a matter of priority and with the necessary thoroughness as well as confidentiality. The exceptionally difficult task, which must be resolved, of protecting sources and people must be completely guaranteed during the screening.

## Prosecutor Confirms Decision on Stasi Files

*LD2303163590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1344 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—An examination of the files of the former Ministry of State Security concerning the newly elected People's Chamber deputies is unconstitutional before the constituent meeting of the parliament. This emerges from a statement by the GDR chief public prosecutor, Dr. Hans-Juergen Joseph, in a statement conveyed to ADN today. The Public Prosecutor's Office, therefore, rejected all cooperation in examining the files at the present time for legal reasons.

Dr. Joseph proposes that the files in the possession of the former Offices for National Security should be protected from any interference in a security partnership between the citizens' committees, the German People's Police, and the State Committee for the Dissolution of the former Office for National Security until a decision has been taken by the People's Chamber.

"The supreme parliament has been elected in line with Article 48 of the GDR Constitution with the free, universal, equal, and secret elections to the GDR People's Chamber on 18 March 1990. The central GDR election commission has officially confirmed that the elections to the People's Chamber were properly executed," says the letter, which was also conveyed to the chairmen of the parties and electoral alliances elected to the People's Chamber. "All the questions concerning the People's Chamber and its deputies can only be decided by the People's Chamber itself." A vetting of deputies is exclusively within the competence of the People's Chamber, "since this affects also the immunity of the deputies and their personal rights."

For the abovementioned reasons, the Public Prosecutor's Office was not available for such a measure.

## Paper Claims De Maiziere Had Stasi Codename

*LD2303183990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1707 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Cologne (ADN)—Lothar de Maiziere, chairman of the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] in the GDR, is said to have been registered in the files of the GDR state security service under the code name "Scerny". Werner Fischer, the government representative for the disbanding of the GDR Office for National Security, stated this to the Cologne newspaper EXPRESS (Saturday's edition). In addition, there are reference to De Maiziere's former "controller" in the state security service. Fischer said that the references are a matter "of information to be taken very seriously, that have the same Source as the Schnur case."

In prereleased information placed at the disposal of ADN in Bonn, the Cologne EXPRESS says that the GDR Government representative concedes that the accustions could "be a question of a targeted campaign against Mr. de Maiziere". On the other hand, there are also "references from other sources" concerning the CDU chairman's collaboration with the Stasi. Fischer, who has been imprisoned several times during the past few years, stated on the De Maiziere case: "I have no interest in ruining this man politically. On the contrary, I would be happy if it emerges from the security examination that he had never worked for the state security service." Elsewhere, Fischer emphasized: "If people take on political responsibility now in our country then the population has a right to know if these people worked earlier for the State Security Office."

## CDU Chief De Maiziere Denies Links With Stasi

*LD2303182890 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1622 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] Berlin (ADN)—Christian Democratic Union [CDU] chief Lothar de Maiziere announced today that he is available for the post of prime minister in the new GDR Government which is to be formed. [passage omitted]

The offer to the Social Democratic Party [SPD] to participate in the government remains. Initial preparatory talks last night merely served to clear up interparliamentary group work. Information talks have been promised by the SPD.

It emerges from a statement read by press spokesman Lueck that the CDU Presidium, as well as the GDR state prosecutor, view a general screening of the People's Chamber deputies as not justifiable on legal grounds. Deputies' immunity could only be lifted in cases of well-founded suspicion of criminal acts.

"In face of the extent of the activities and the more than questionable practices of the former Ministry of State Security in cases of a general scrutiny it is feared that a process would thus be triggered that does not serve the truth but seriously endangers internal peace in our country. An escalation of mistrust, suspicion, and slander does not serve our young democracy. Six million Stasi files are part of the most serious burden of the mistaken development of our country. We have to guarantee that dealing with these files takes place exclusively according to legal principles," the Presidium says.

De Maiziere emphasized in a personal statement that he considers the consequences of screening the 400 deputies of the People's Chamber and possibly a certain number of follow-up candidates as out of the question both politically as well as morally. In reply to accusations raised against him, he had told the CDU Presidium: "My contacts with the Ministry of State Security were no more than those necessary within the framework of a lawyer's work. At no time did I sign a statement of obligation, or receive money or other privileges. I will not give a further statement on this matter."

## DER SPIEGEL on Boehme's Stasi Links

*LD2403183990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1724 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Hamburg (ADN)—In the news magazine DER SPIEGEL, two former GDR state security workers have accused GDR Social Democratic Party Chairman Ibrahim Boehme of having been a regular unofficial worker for the organization. In the edition of the mazagine to appear on 26 March, Boehme emphatically denies these accusations and calls them "simply infamous." Because neither side could produce evidence, according to SPIEGEL, it is one word against another.

The magazine also repeats the accusations against GDR Christian Democratic Union Chairman Lothar de Maiziere that he had possibly been registered by the Stasi under the code name "Czerni" and had been a "star informer" of the informer organization. De Maiziere also stressed to the magazine that all such accusations are "pure rubbish."

In the case of Boehme, the magazine claims to have learned from two unnamed former Stasi officers that he was registered under the code names "Paul Bongartz," "Dr. Rohloff," and "Maximilian." He worked under three controllers. "I don't know any of them," Boehme stated and asked SPIEGEL, "Why don't you confront them?"

### Boehme Releases Letter

*LD2403213290 Hamburg DPA in German 2008 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] [no dateline as received] In a letter to the executive of the GDR-Social Democratic Party [SPD] and to the members of the SPD parliamentary group, Boehme has once again rejected the charges made against him. "I declare, despite contrary assertions and presumptions, that I have never worked for or with the Ministry for State Security and reject such presumptions as slander." The SPD chairman recommended that the SPD People's Chamber group "suspend all information talks with other parliamentary groups until completion of the clarification that has been started of the Ministry for State Security matters."

Boehme said that prior to him Lothar de Maiziere (GDR Christian Democratic Union) had also been subjected to similar suspicions. "As he, like me, is—as parliamentary group chairman—a 'natural' partner in talks for the cooperation that needs to be agreed between the parliamentary groups on questions of national significance," this step is necessary, he said. An agreement "must be aimed for with the parliamentary group chairmen of all parties that come in question," says the letter released today by the East SPD press office.

### Boehme Denies Links

*LD2603100590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0929 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—SPD [Social Democratic Party] Chairman Ibrahim Boehme, speaking at an international news conference held in Berlin today, resolutely rejected the accusations leveled against him about alleged activities for the former Ministry of State Security. "I personally declare that at no time and through no one have I worked for the Ministry of State Security, inside the Ministry of State Security, or with the Ministry of State Security, or knowingly passed on information to it," he said. Accordingly, any assertions to the contrary, for instance that he had received money for informal cooperation, did not correspond to the truth, Boehme emphasized.

The SPD chairman has instructed a solicitor to consider likely legal steps. Ibrahim Boehme asked his parliamentary group for understanding, and said that he would suspend his People's Chamber seat until the accusations had been cleared.

On Friday, Boehme met with acting Prime Minister Modrow after he had been informed on Thursday about the forthcoming publication in SPIEGEL. He asked that his files, if available, be handed to an independent body, he said.

Boehme, who at the same time is suspending his party chairman post, proposed that until the accusations have been cleared up, SPD deputy chairman Markus Meckel be considered acting party chairman and the SPD deputy chairman Richard Schroeder as chairman of the parliamentary group.

Schroeder said at the press conference that, contrary to different reports in the press, the talks between SPD presidium members and the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] chairman Lothar de Maiziere last Thursday were neither a briefing nor coalition talks, but merely a first contact to get to know one another. SPD resolutions concerning briefing talks with the CDU would be possible at the end of the parliamentary group session on Tuesday at the earliest, since the CDU, too, will be able to nominate its negotiators only on that day after its group has been set up.

### De Maiziere Declares Availability for Premiership

*LD2303152990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1441 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Christian Democratic Union [CDU] chief Lothar de Maiziere announced today that he is available for the post of prime minister in the new GDR government. The presidium of the CDU party executive has noted his readiness with great approval, press spokesman Helmut Lueck told the international press in Berlin. The party presidium will put him forward as prime minister.

At the press conference, which the CDU presidium meeting broke up to attend, de Maiziere announced that the 163 CDU People's Chamber deputies will convene for their constitutent parliamentary group session on Tuesday morning [27 March].

De Maiziere said that the first coalition talk about the formation of a government with the Free Democrats augured well. Briefings have been promised in the first consultations with the Social Democratic Party.

### Gysi Elected PDS Parliamentary Group Chairman

*LD2603090190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0838 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The 66 deputies of the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS] People's Chamber group today elected party Chairman Gregor Gysi as chairman of the group. Gysi subsequently proposed that Hans Modrow be nominated as candidate for the office of People's Chamber president.

In the course of the group session, the PDS deputies will discuss their future parliamentary work. Hans Modrow said at the start of the session that the trust of the over 1.8 million PDS voters had to be justified in the People's Chamber. Parliamentary and party work should be seen in the future as an integrated whole, he stressed. The problem of examining the Stasi files should be tackled responsibly.

### Communist Party To Contest 6 May Election

*LD2503152990 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1345 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The KPD [German Communist Party] is to take part in the local elections on 6 May and, in preparation for this, is to continue talks concerning cooperation with all democratic forces.

The party informed ADN on 25 March that the members of the KPD center have issued a statement of honor according to which they have never been unofficial state security or other secret service workers.

### Alliance 90-Greens Group Constituted

*LD2503083690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2017 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The Alliance 90-Greens parliamentary group constituted itself this evening in the House of Democracy in Berlin. Discussions took place on preparations for parliamentary work and on questions of points of order. Vera Wollenberger (Green Party), Professor Jens Reich (New Forum), and Dr. Wolfgang Ullmann (Democracy Now) were elected spokespersons of the parliamentary group with equal rights. Matthias Platzeck (Green Party) and Gerd Poppe (Peace and Human Rights Initiative) became the parliamentary business managers.

The parliamentary group is calling for all deputies to be "scrutinized for Stasi collaboration" before the constituting of the parliament. Personal rights will, in their opinion, not be affected if the scrutiny takes place with consent and in confidence. In an open letter, all parliamentarians are called on to endorse the statement of willingness of the Alliance 90 and the Greens deputies. [passage omitted]

### Republicans Set Up Three District Groups

*LD2403183590 Hamburg DPA in German 1712 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—The right-wing extremist Republicans claim to have set up three district (kreis) associations within the GDR Brandenburg association on Saturday. At the same time, the candidates for the local elections on 6 May have been nominated, said Thorsten Thaler, West Berlin Republicans spokesman. The district associations were set up in Potsdam, Oranienburg, and Schwedt.

### CDU-SPD Coalition Talks Planned for 27 Mar

*LD2303173290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1434 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The planned informative talks with the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] on a future coalition government will, at the earliest, start immediately after the formation of the CDU parliamentary group on 27 March. This was stressed in a statement published by the Social Democratic Party [SPD] press office this afternoon. On 26 March, the SPD Presidium and parliamentary group intend to decide on the party group in the talks, as well as to agree on conditions related to content and other matters.

The unexpected two and a half hours of talks on 22 march between members of the SPD Presidium and the executive of the parliamentary group with CDU leader Lothar de Maiziere are described as being "informative, objective, and good." They were the first contacts without a mandate to negotiate. There is agreement on both sides about coordinating their future work in parliament.

## UFV in Protest Ends Alliance With Green Party

*LD2303111390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 0915 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—According to a statement by the spokespersons' council of the Independent Women's Union (UFV), the UFV has been deprived of People's Chamber mandates by its election alliance partner, the Green Party. In protest against its behavior in the alliance, the UFV terminated its election alliance with the Green Party today.

The UFV at the same time rejected the role allotted to it in the emerging parliamentary group composed of the Alliance 90 and Green Party.

## NDPD Threatened With Complete Collapse

*AU2303212390 Munich SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG in German 23 Mar 90 p 6*

[Giovanni di Lorenzo report: "National Democrats Threatened With Political End"]

[Text] Berlin, 22 March—After the failure of its attempts to join the liberals, the National Democratic Party of Germany (NDPD) of the GDR is threatened with its political end. A leading member of the former bloc party told SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG: "We do not know anymore how we should keep our members together." At the People's Chamber elections, the NDPD suffered a devastating defeat, getting only 0.39 percent of the votes. The party, which has 80,000 members and is quite prosperous, had counted on becoming a member, together with the partners of the "League of Free Democrats," of the GDR's FDP [Free Democratic Party], which is to be newly founded. Four weeks ago, NDPD representatives started unofficial negotiations with the FRG FDP on a potential accession. However, the three partners in the League of Free Democrats rejected the NDPD's application for joining their list for the People's Chamber elections; new talks have been postponed until after the elections.

On Monday [19 March] an NDPD delegation, headed by Chairman Wolfgang Raul, met in a West Berlin hotel with Wolfgang Mischnick, chairman of the FDP Bundestag group, and other FRG liberals. According to information from the NDPD, Mischnick gave the go-ahead for the former bloc party's accession to the East FDP. As a result, the NDPD announced the resignation of its two deputy chairman Guenter Hartmann and Uwe Lassen, who had been criticized by the GDR liberals in the past because of their involvement in the old party system. However, at a news conference given by the three parties of the League of Free Democrats on Tuesday, an accession of the NDPD was not mentioned at all. On the contrary, Hans-Georg Fleck, associate of GDR FDP Chairman Bruno Menzel, affirmed in a talk with SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG, that it is not intended to complicate even more the already difficult unification process of the liberals. Nevertheless, NDPD members are free to leave their party and to join the liberals.

The NDPD fears that it has lost any political prospects in the GDR. In addition, it feels cheated by the GDR liberals: "First they forced us to our knees; now we are on our knees, but they are still not satisfied," a leading NDPD member told SUEDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG. Even though it is possible to maintain the party apparatus for years to come, political survival without the integration into a democratic party that is supported by the west cannot be guaranteed. After the change in the GDR, the ultra rightist NPD [National Democratic Party of Germany] and the "Republicans" had futilely tried to establish contacts with the NDPD. The party allegedly owns property worth 127 million GDR marks and has far more than 200 offices.

The NDPD was founded on 25 March 1948 in order to integrate "less burdened" former members of the NSDAP [National Socialist German Workers Party] into the political system. In addition, it was intended to form a counterweight to the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany (LDPD), which at that time was still heatedly opposing the SED's [Socialist Unity Party of Germany] plans for nationalization. The tensions that developed at that time continued until the change in the GDR. Under the old regime the NDPD ultimatedly had two ministers and 52 deputies. After the elections of 18 March the NDPD has been left with two deputies.

## Democracy Now Opposes File Destruction

*LD2503053590 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2131 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—In a statement today the land committee of the citizens' movement Democracy Now has spoken out against destruction of the files and material from the former Ministry for State Security Office for National Security.

It calls on the newly elected People's Chamber not to agree to any such motions. At the same time, the committee approves of a legal initiative from the Alliance 90/Greens parliamentary group for the scrutinizing of all deputies with regard to possible cooperation with the former state security service.

### Opposes Coalition With PDS

*LD2503084490 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2304 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The aim of the citizens' movement Democracy Now continues to be the completion of the democratic revolution, says a press statement from the land committee which was conveyed to ADN today. Dubious information practices in East and West have led to irritation, as a result of which the citizens' movement sees itself occasioned to make a statement.

"The turn-around in the Party of Democratic Socialism [PDS] is not credible," the statement says. "New people agitate in the foreground. They cite a new program that has been largely copied from the citizens' movements and supplemented with popular slogans."

The PDS now is attempting "to profit from the credibility of the citizens' movements by the tactic of embracing them. For that reason, the citizens' movement Democracy Now rejects cooperation with the PDS and its satellites: the National Citizens' Movement (formerly National Front), Free German Youth, the Democratic Women's Federation, the Carnations, and so on. Our political opponents are the PDS and the Alliance for Germany."

### Officers Propose Pan-European Security System

*LD2603085190 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1711 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Baden-Baden (ADN)—The creation of a European security system across pact lines will remain a fixed aim of German security policy even after the unification of the two German states. This was the conclusion reached by participants in a meeting to found a German discussion circle for high-ranking officers, held in Baden-Baden at the weekend.

This security system should gradually replace the existing alliances and reshape the existing military structures and relations. The German unification process, the officers said in a declaration, must be in harmony with the European process and support reciprocal confidence-building and disarmament, verification, and the creation of common security structures.

The participants in the meeting developed ideas on the prospects for future all-German security forces, as the process of German unification would probably proceed faster than the creation of a European security system. For instance, today's National People's Army should remain for a transitional period in a reduced and altered form. The aim should be, the declaration says, for it to be released from the military organization of the Warsaw Pact and to receive territorial tasks.

During the adaptation of NATO to the disarmament process and the changing of strategies and structures, the extent of the Bundeswehr would also be reduced, and its role would change. The military men propose that both alliances should give a security guarantee for the territory of what is today the GDR, a guarantee which is tied in to the CSCE process, and that disarmament measures that have been decided should be monitored by an international verification authority.

For the immediate future the participants in the meeting, which came about on the initiative of retired FRG Admiral Schmaehling, suggest among other things an immediate meeting of the two defense ministers and the formation of a joint military commission.

### National People's Army Missiles Dismantled

*AU2203140990 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16 Mar 90 p 1*

[Rainer Funke report: "The National People's Army Disarms Its Missiles—When Will the Bundeswehr Follow?]

[Text] On-site inspection for the international media on Thursday [15 March]: the 5th Missile Brigade of the National People's Army [NVA], Demen, 2715, near Schwerin. Since the end of 1985 operational "Oka" tactical missiles of the NVA had been stationed here, known as SS-23 in the NATO code, including four launch pads, and an equal number of transportation trucks. Since 1 February the technical equipment has been destroyed on the orders of Premier Hans Modrow. About 20 men of various ranks, from soldier to lieutenant colonel, needed about 14 days to reduce one pad to scrap and to prepare another one for the same treatment at the same time.

So far over 15 tonnes of this metal have been cut to pieces that can be used in industry for further peaceful processing—the SERO [secondary raw material economy] combine is happy. By 30 April the work is to be concluded. One launch complex will be left to posterity—in the Dresden Military History Museum. A question to Brigade Commander, Colonel Gerhard Pfuetzner: Where are the 24 missiles with their conventional warheads? "The Missile Technology Service of the Neubrandenburg Military Bezirk [area] has taken them over. At the moment it is being checked when and where they will be destroyed. They will be destroyed before the end of 1990 in any case."

In the facility there are still older type missiles. Why are the modern ones being scrapped. Says Colonel Gerd Apitz, deputy press spokesman of the Defense Ministry: "With a view to a future security system in Europe, we start with the missiles by which the other side feels threatened the most. And we expect that the Bundeswehr, for instance, does the same."

The soldiers are doing their work with visible energy. Private Gerd Kristen (25), welder from Magdeburg, says: "I do not know how many hours I spent keeping this equipment ready for use. Contributing to disarmament as a soldier is a good feeling."

## Military Group To Participate in Local Elections

*LD2503053390 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1233 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—The GDR Association of Professional Soldiers intends to put up its own candidates for the local elections on 6 May in places where the National People's Army is based. The main executive decided this at its meeting today. The association intends to help solve local problems in community, town, and district assemblies. [passage omitted]

## Honecker's Move to Lindow Draws Protest

*LD2403175290 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1612 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The 77-year-old former state and party leader Erich Honecker and his wife were moved on 23 March from the pastor's house in Lobetal near Bernau into an apartment in the Lindow government residence near Neuruppin, but had to be brought back again on 24 March because a threatening situation had developed through people protesting at their presence in Lindow. This was revealed to ADN by the press and information service of the GDR Government in response to an enquiry.

The move, which was supposed to pass off quietly, took place in the presence of the doctor treating Honecker and his lawyer. It was the result of an agreement between acting Premier Hans Modrow and members of the Evangelical Church hierarchy. The premier had previously visited the couple in Lobetal and thanked Pastor Holmer for his humanitarian support.

## Diplomatic Relations With Namibia Established

*LD2203174690 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1639 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek (ADN)—The GDR and the Republic of Namibia have taken up diplomatic relations. A relevant joint communique was signed in Windhoek today by the head of the GDR's delegation to the independence celebrations, State Secretary Dr. Werner Fleck, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Namibia, Theo Ben Gurirab. Both governments agreed to develop mutual relations on the basis of the principles laid down in the UN Charter. Their joint conviction that the setting up of diplomatic relations will contribute to understanding and cooperation between both countries was expressed in the document.

The GDR's diplomatic observers' mission in Windhoek has been transformed into the GDR's Embassy in the Republic of Namibia.

## Kreis Negotiations for Accession to FRG Canceled

*AU2203115890 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 16 Mar 90 p 2*

[ADN report: "For the Moment No Secession of the Eastern Eichsfeld..."]

[Text] Erfurt—The eastern Eichsfeld will stay with the GDR. For the time being. Originally, on Thursday morning [15 March] the Heiligenstadt Kreis Council announced a decision to start direct negotiations with the FRG for accession. However, this decision was not implemented.

At the roundtables in the Heiligenstadt Eichsfeld Kreis and of Erfurt Bezirk, the council's intention had caused heated reactions. Raphael Scharf-Katz, chairman of the Thuringian Jewish Land Community, stated at the Erfurt roundtable that such solo actions might endanger the whole. They call into question the two-plus-four negotiations and give the impression that the Germans on the whole are not reliable. At the roundtable it had been considered to demand a stated penalty from Werner Henning, chairman of the Heiligenstadt Kreis Council, for violating the Constitution. Even the CDU [Christian Democratic Union of Germany] representative at the bezirk [area] roundtable expressed shock and distanced himself from the decision.

Even though the kreis council has now shelved its plan, questions remain open. Was it really a solo action by the CDU politician and his council or an action that had been coordinated with the partners in Lower Saxony? Was it pure election tactics to catch votes? Was it a test for the already weakened state power whether it is still able to act? Citizens initiatives and parties, the Democratic Peasants Party, the Liberal Democratic Party, the National Democratic Party of Germany, the Social Democratic Party, and the Party of Democratic Socialism protested. After consulting with the roundtable, Horst Lang, acting chairman of the Bezirk Council, pointed out the imminent consequences to Henning.

Thus, for the time being there is no case of precedence for the application of Article 23 of Bonn's Basic Law to a GDR region. The Eichsfeld would have been ideal for this. The historical links of its inhabitants have always been special, characterized by Catholicism. The separation of 1805 as a result of the decision of the Deputation of the German Estates compensating German sovereign princes for losses of territories ceded to France under Napoleon, which split the region into the Prussian—today Thuringian—Obereichsfeld and the smaller Lower Saxon part hardly damaged the close links. Only the drawing of the border line in 1945 put the identity of the Eichsfeld inhabitants to a severe test. Now many people are impatiently hoping for reunification. Henning with his surprise plans obviously wanted to live up to this mood.

### Past FRG Claims on GDR Property Criticized

*AU2203151990 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17-18 Mar 90 p 2*

[Rosi Blaschke commentary: "To Whom Does the GDR Belong?"]

[Text] To whom does the GDR belong? This question worries many people in our country, in particular hundreds of thousands of peasants. The issue is the land that they are cultivating, the land on which they have built the basis of their future existence.

For the lords of the manors who fled to the West the question has already been answered. They are now sensing country air. "The switches have to be set now," the Count of Schwerin from Hamburg demands in DIE ZEIT, already reaching toward "his" lands in Mecklenburg/Hither Pomerania.

As if on the territory of today's GDR there had never been a land reform, which ended centuries of injustice. The reform returned the land to those who cultivated it. This applies in particular to the laender of Mecklenburg/Hither Pomerania and Brandenburg, where more than half of the land belonged to large landowners before 1945.

The land reform was a model of democracy. In the about 10,000 commissions more than 50,000 agricultural workers and peasants without land, who did not belong to a party or belonged to the Communist Party of Germany, the Social Democratic Party, the Christian Democratic Union of Germany, or the Liberal Democratic Party of Germany, worked and exercised their right to self- determination. They, their children, and grandchildren have the legal and moral right to the land. They have worked for what they own. This also the standpiont of the recently founded GDR Peasants' Association, which comprises more than 600,000 peasants. The founding was also attended by Baron Heereman, chairman of the FRG Farmers' Assocation. Asked by peasant Wilfried Briesemeister from Bad Doberan, about the attitude of the GDR Farmers' Association toward the land reform, Heereman said: We must beware of creating new injustice while eliminating old injustices. Payment of compensation does not mean "renouncing property."

Coming back to the question at the beginning: The GDR belongs to many people, but there are also many hands reaching for it....

### FRG Policy Toward Resettlers To Change

*AU2203103290 East Berlin BERLINER ZEITUNG in German 15 Mar 90 p 1*

[Bo Adam commentary: "Change in Bonn in Preparation"]

[Text] As was to be expected, the Christian Democratic Union [CDU] and the Christian Social Union in Bonn are now preparing a change in resettler policy. In the near future, emergency acceptance procedures are to be abolished and various allowances are to be canceled. Social benefits, too, will no longer be paid in line with FRG standards but with those of the GDR. GDR pensioners would then have to expect high losses.

The case is interesting because of several aspects. First of all, one has to note that the union parties—contrary to their own slogan "we are one people"—are now accurately distinguishing between first class and second class Germans.

On the other hand, everybody will understand that preferential treatment of resettlers cannot be justified. However, why were such straightforward regulations not introduced long ago, as this has been demanded by the FRG opposition parties? Why is the change being announced only now? The GDR would not have lost so many people and the social explosive issue, the displeasure of the FRG population, would not have accumulated so much. Well, as we said before, elections are upcoming: In Lower Saxony the CDU is fearing for its government and thus for the majority in the Bundesrat, and in the GDR it is fervently hoping that the men of its choice will definitely be represented in the future cabinet.

However, since the results of both elections are not yet known, in Bonn the change in the treatment of resettlers has just been announced but not decided. When and how it will really be implemented depends, for instance, on whether the future GDR government capitulates to the maximum demands from Bonn. In other words: If the monetary union is brought about as quickly as Chancellor Kohl wishes, the change in the resettler policy will also take place. If East Berlin resists too much, the GDR may continue to hemorrhage. Our new cabinet is certainly not to be envied.

### Market Economy, Poverty in FRG Criticized

*AU2203152390 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 17-18 Mar 90 p 2*

[Gerd Prokot commentary: "It Does Indeed Exist"]

[Text] It is not difficult to be captivated by the FRG, one feels the urge to say, paraphrasing a Hitchcock advertisement. GDR visitors exult about the full shop windows, the friendly service, the clean streets, the beautiful villages. Most of them do not see the dark side of the affluent FRG society; many even consider it either an invention or an exaggeration. In the view of many GDR citizens, who draw comparisons between here and there, every FRG citizen with a pension of 1,500 Deutsche marks [DM] or a gross monthly income of DM3,200 clearly seems to be rich.

However, the blessings of the social market economy are not distributed as equally as FRG politicians and managers would have it. Even though it fits the picture today less than ever: There is real existing poverty in the FRG—and it has long stopped being a phenomenon of a minority. Since the beginning of the 1980's, despite the continuing economic upswing, the number of people on welfare has risen by 46 percent to 3.1 million people; the German Welfare Association even speaks of 6 million needy people. The majority of people receiving welfare benefits are people who are of working age: long-term unemployed, people without vocational training, older people, beginners, handicapped, foreigners, and women.

The threshold to poverty is generally set at about 50 percent of the average income, that is, it is set at a net income of about DM1,200. Some GDR citizens might sigh that they would like to be so poor: Nothing is easier than that. If state unity were to come about overnight, at least three-quarters of all GDR citizens would fall into the category of the poor, according to FRG calculations. In terms of statistics. With an average income of about 1,200 GDR marks—not to speak of minimum pensions—10 million people would suddenly be welfare cases. How rich must the new Germany be to be able to afford so many poor?

## 70 Percent Turnout in Hungarian Elections

*AU2503183390 Paris AFP in English 1655 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[By Jacques Boyer]

[Excerpts] Budapest, March 25 (AFP)—Hungarian voters turned out in large numbers Sunday for the country's first free elections since 1947, electoral commission officials said. The poll was expected to sweep away communism and usher in a free-market, Western-style democracy. Voters were electing 386 deputies to parliament.

But irregularities in the vote monitored by international observers were reported by at least 10 polling stations where unregistered voters had cast ballots. Officials were debating whether to annul all votes collected so far at the affected stations—between 50 and 100 in each case—the national electoral commission said.

Voter turnout exceeded 70 per cent, commission sources said after most stations had closed. Most shut at 6 p.m. (1600 GMT), but a few, where turnout was low, were to stay open until 8 p.m. (1800 GMT). [passage omitted]

Hungarian radio broadcast an appeal to Hungarians to go out and "vote in this historic election". By 11 a.m., 40 per cent of Budapest's registered voters had cast their ballots and others were waiting in long lines outside polling stations. In Sopron, near the Austrian border, 60 per cent had voted by noon. [passage omitted]

A total of 7.6 million people were eligible to vote on Sunday.

Twelve parties were fielding candidates, with the center-right Hungarian Democratic Forum tipped as front-runner, followed by the liberal Alliance of Free Democrats (SZDSZ) and agrarian Smallholders Party, according to pre-election opinion polls. [passage omitted]

## MDF, SZDSZ Take Overall Lead in Elections

*LD2603074190 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0600 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] [Announcer] From the headquarters of the National Election Committee, Zoltan Novotny sums up the partial results received to date from the free elections in Hungary.

[Novotny] I am reporting from Hunters' Hall. At 0750 we knew the official, final results of 39 of the 176 individual electoral constituencies. According to this, five people are members of the new National Assembly: Premier Miklos Nemeth as an independent deputy from Szerencs; Jozsef Debreczeni, member of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] from Kecskemet; Zoltan Deme, independent deputy in Szarvas; Erno Raffay, MDF deputy from Szeged; and Zoltan Kiraly, independent candidate from Szeged.

In general, the electoral candidates of the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] and the MDF are in the lead. Thus, voting will have to repeated in two weeks' time in 34 constituencies. It is of interest that (Ferenc Wekler) of the Agrarian Alliance, Lajos Szabo of the Smallholders' Party, and Gyula Horn of the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] ended up in the lead. Therefore, from first place they can expect a continuation.

Overall, this is the tendency, the trend, in the other individual electoral constituencies. So we can say that very few people will be able to feel they are deputies after the final results. The elections will have to be repeated in most of the individual electoral constituencies.

Regarding the regional lists, we have processed 15 percent of the voting records. The preliminary opinion polls appear to be verified here. The MDF is the list in the lead in eight counties, SZDSZ is the leader in seven counties, and the Independent Smallholders' Party is leading in three. In general, this is the sequence: thus, the SZDSZ and MDF are battling at the top, while at the moment it appears that the Smallholder's Party is in third place. However, the MSZP is in a good position, and surprisingly, for example, the Christian Democratic People's Party has pulled itself up to third, at three places.

## Szuros, Nemeth Win 1st Round; Pozsgay Loses

*LD2603031190 Budapest MTI in English 0215 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 26 (MTI)—Jozsef Debreczeni (HDF) [Hungarian Democratic Forum—MDF], one of the four opposition candidates who joined the current parliament after last summer's by-elections, won 50.93 per cent of votes—an absolute majority—thus securing a seat in the new parliament.

As reported earlier, Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth, who ran in Borsod-Abauj-Zemplen county as an independent candidate, won a mandate with 59.97 per cent of the votes.

A surprise defeat came in Budapest's 8th Constituency, where eight candidates ran and votes have now been counted in 56 of the 57 wards: It now seems sure that Anna Petrasovits, president of the Social Democratic Party of Hungary, stands in seventh place with her 5.4 per cent. An HDF candidate is in the lead with 29.4 per cent, ahead of an AFD [Alliance of Free Democrats—SZDSZ] candidate who has won 27.9 per cent of the votes.

In Sopron, Imre Pozsgay (HSP) [Hungarian Socialist Party—MSZP] finished in third place with 17.9 per cent, trailing behind Jozsef Szajer (FYD [Federation of Young Democrats—FIDESZ]—29 per cent, and Laszlo Karpati (HDF—19 per cent).

In Somogy County's 4th Constituency, Foreign Minister Gyula Horn (HSP) is in the lead with 33.8 per cent, ahead of Antal Gal (HDF—23.6 per cent). (So far, 40 per cent of the votes have been counted.

Bela Kiraly, an independent candidate and commander-in-chief of the National Guard in 1956, won the elections in a Kaposvar constituency with 45.43 per cent. Since he did not obtain half of the votes, the mandate will be decided on in the second round.

In Szarvas, Bekes County's 5th Constituency, independent candidate Zoltan Deme won 53.5 per cent of the votes and secured a seat in the new parliament.

In Budapest's 7th Constituency, Gaspar Miklos Tamas, a prominent representative of the Alliance of Free Democrats, won 39.3 per cent of the vote, ahead of Gyorgy Schamschula (HDF—28.4 per cent), and Lajos Matyas Szabo (HSP—12.21 per cent). The mandate will therefore be decided on in the second round.

In Hajdu-Bihar County's 6th Constituency, Matyas Szuros, interim president of the republic and candidate of the Hungarian Socialist Party, won the first round with 32.7 per cent of the vote.

The seat will therefore be decided on in the second round.

### MSZP's Horn Wins 1st Round, Faces Runoff

*LD2603033190 Budapest MTI in English 0254 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 26 (MTI)—In Somogy County's 4th Constituency, Foreign Minister Gyula Horn (HSP) [Hungarian Socialist Party—MSZP] won the first round with 32.86 per cent of the vote.

Antal Gaal (HDF) [Hungarian Democratic Forum—MDF] finished in second place with 19.02 per cent, and Bela Nemeth (ISP) [Independent Smallholders Party] third with 17.37 per cent.

The three will run in the second round.

### Results of Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg Voting

*LD2603033890 Budapest MTI in English 0320 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, march 26 (MTI)—In Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg County's 3rd Constituency, Laszlo Makkai (AFD) [Alliance of Free Democrats—SZDSZ] won 16.04 per cent of the votes. Istvan Varkonyi (HDF) [Hungarian Democratic Forum—MDF] finished in second place with 14.15 percent, and Janos Berecz (HSWP) [Hungarian Socialist Workers Party—MSZMP] in third with 12.67 percent. Imre Bokor, number one on the national list of the Entrepreneurs' Party and author of the book PETTY MONARCHS IN UNIFORM which exposed abuses in the former People's Army, finished in fifth place with 10.24 percent and was eliminated.

Gyula Thurmer, president of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' party, who ran in a Veszprem Constituency, came in fifth and failed to qualify for the second round.

### Kiraly, Raffray Win Parliament Seats Outright

*LD2603034290 Budapest MTI in English 0322 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 26 (MTI)—In Szeged, Zoltan Kiraly, an independent candidate supported by the HDF [Hungarian Democratic Forum—MDF], won 65.47 percent of the vote and secured a parliamentary seat.

Erno Raffray [MDF], who first became an MP in a by-election last summer, obtained 53.42 percent, similarly securing a mandate.

### MDF Leads in Local Constituency Races

*LD2603042990 Budapest MTI in English 0358 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 26 (MTI)—In a Budapest constituency, Viktor Orban, a prominent representative of the Federation of Young Democrats, came second to an HDF [Hungarian Democratic Forum—MDF] candidate with 20 percent of votes, and qualified for the second round ahead of an AFD [Alliance of Free Democrats—SZDSZ] candidate.

Jozsef Torgyan, chief attorney of the Independent Smallholders Party, obtained 18.32 percent of the votes in a Szabolcs-Szatmar-Bereg County constituency to finish second to an HDF candidate and ahead of an AFD candidate.

Independent candidate Sandor Nagy, president of the National Confederation of Trade Unions, finished in second place in a Hajdu-Bihar County constituency with 15.77 percent. The election was won by an HDF candidate, and the third place taken by an AFD candidate.

### Nemeth Reportedly Wins Seat in Parliament

*LD2503215890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Miklos Nemeth is a member of the new parliament. Our present head of government, the independent candidate for County Borsod-Abauj-Zemplen, can already feel himself to be in the new parliament; this was announced by Mrs. (Endre Nagy), election committee chairwoman in the county's No. 11 National Assembly constituency.

The head of government, who was running in Zemplen, on the basis of the valid registers from 39 of the 77 wards has received 9,751 of the 16,528 valid votes, and with this he heads the lists with 59.1 per cent. In other words, he has obtained an absolute majority. Therefore, he is the first.

## Observations, Reactions to Election Results

### Pozsgay on Possible Defeat

*LD2503223290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[From the "Election Watch" coverage—live]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] I am now connecting the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] headquarters, and Jozsef Orosz:

[Orosz] A few minutes ago we had a good laugh at a Mikszath [19th- century writer who poked fun at 19th-century voting practices in Hungary] anecdote which was related here, and I do not think it is worthwhile to ask Imre Pozsgay what his wife says to all of this, especially to his having been—in quotes—kicked for a half year. [passage omitted] I imagine that many of us are curious about your latest reaction, namely to the FIDESZ [Federation of Young Democrats] candidate, Jozsef Szajer, leading by a large proportion, while you are second, in the Sopron electoral constituency. What is your opinion?

[Pozsgay] Regarding this large proportion, I can say that at the moment the results have been counted in approximately eight of the 54 wards, and from this it appears that he is leading with a large proportion. If, however, Jozsef Szajer overtakes me here, all I can say is that I shall remain in the contest and that the election will continue with the second round. I add that since I am a democrat, and I wanted a democracy based on free elections, this also means that I accept all the consequences thereof. History is not ending on 25 March. On the contrary, now the erroneous decisions will be corrected. [passage omitted]

### MSZP Reaction

*LD2603104790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Text] [Announcer] The Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] began its news conference at 1100. Jozsef Orosz reports:

[Orosz] According to the MSZP's data, so far 40 of their candidates will be able to run in the second round [of the elections]. The success of the first round is the performance of Miklos Nemeth and Gyula Horn, the bitter pill is Imre Pozsgay's third place in Sopron. The party list leader is disappointed and trusts that the people from Sopron will correct their errors in the second round, as Imre Pozsgay put it.

Rezsoe Nyers said it was historically bad luck that the voters did not believe them that the MSZP does not want socialist experiments but social policy, although they are satisfied with the average voting result of 15 percent, and they are particularly satisfied that the Socialists have, since May 1988, led the country to free elections. According to Rezso Nyers, a grand coalition will be necessary in the new parliament, but they would not be offended if the Socialists have to go into opposition.

### SZDSZ, MDF Leaders Assessment

*LD2603105890 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Erno Kardos has telephoned with report on some victorious parties and some who lost. [passage omitted]

[Kardos] Most of the parties are evaluating the results achieved so far in the elections. Ivan Peto, executive of the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] sees the situation as follows:

[Begin Peto recording] The decisive majority of the Hungarian citizens knew, and know, that it was possible to vote for a change of system. Basic things had to be decided. Perhaps this is the greatest achievement, the thing which can be most valued in the first round. We believe that we have a chance of victory in the first round.

What is at stake in the remaining weeks until the second round is not for the parties to present themselves, but what is at stake is who will govern Hungary in two weeks' time? For this reason, we believe that in the remaining two weeks the two leading parties must reveal their ideas concerning government to the public. They must discuss their ideas in the greatest possible publicity, on television. [end recording]

[Kardos] I asked for the opinion of the leader of the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF], Jozsef Antall:

[Begin Antall recording] The Hungarian people have decided in favor of parliamentary democracy, and it has decided unequivocally in an opposition political direction. The other thing is that according to the results so far our view is that the MDF will be first, nationally, and naturally we would be satisfied with first place. To my knowledge, up to now, with the exception of Miklos Nemeth, the deputies who have got in on an individual basis are all MDF deputies. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Nemeth Interviewed

*LD2603085590 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0550 GMT 26 Mar 90*

[Interview with Premier Miklos Nemeth by reporter Jozsef Orosz via telephone from the "Good Morning" program—recorded]

[Text] [Orosz] You are in the new Hungarian parliament as an independent candidate, although you were supported by the Hungarian Socialist Party [MSZP] and the People's Party in the elections. Will you remain an independent in parliament, or will you join the MSZSP faction—presuming they get into parliament, as every sign indicates? You cannot join the People's Party because they did not obtain the four percent threshold.

[Nemeth] I first and foremost should like to give thanks, here and now, for the confidence of the electors from Hegyalja, [word indistinct]. I have been voted for many times in my life; I feel that this vote was the real thing. This was a real vote of confidence. I am filled with satisfaction in these first free elections. I think I am correct in saying that I am the first to be voted into the new parliament, which signifies the change of system.

To turn to your question, the Miklos Nemeth who was elected as an independent candidate, will definitely take part in the work of the parliament as an independent.

[Orosz] Does this mean that you will preserve your independence politically, too, meaning that you would relinquish your hitherto professed socialist conviction?

[Nemeth] I cannot tell you, all at once, what I will or will not relinquish. One thing is certain: I am a member of the Socialist Party. I emphasized this everywhere in the course of the campaign. In this sense, I feel that I do not have to relinquish my party membership just because I got in as an independent deputy.

[Orosz] You are fifth on your party's national list, although by having gotten into parliament as an individual, independent candidate, you automatically come off this list. Yet the party itself rightly can lay claim to your joining the MSZP faction.

[Nemeth] I do not believe that we ought to think in terms of this old (?outlook); I do not believe that the rules and boundaries will be so rigid. However, it will be interesting, not regarding myself, but regarding all of parliament's work, and I believe this aspect will have to be considered thoroughly by every party and every person.

[Orosz] What will Miklos Nemeth be like, as an independent parliamentary deputy? What objectives do you have, after being premier, as an independent deputy? I think you have already referred to this.

[Nemeth] I believe that with this vote, the people, the electoral constituency to a certain extent honored my work as premier. So I would not alter my ideas. I will represent the same thing, and I will fight in the same manner, as I did in the past period, for the country and for the people.

[Orosz] So you believe you were rather popular?

[Nemeth] That would not be my point of departure. I was never guided by where I stood on a popularity list. It is generally known how unstable popularity can be.

[Orosz] Would you accept a portfolio?

[Nemeth] It is too early to speak about this. I believe that it will be necessary to form a government in accordance with the rules of multiparty, parliamentary democracy. Everyone will have to take cognizance of these rules. There will be no tragedy if I, or anyone in the current government, were to be pushed out of power,if they were not to take part in government. It is necessary to take cognizance of this. However, it is possible, even outside of government, in opposition, to serve the country's interest well.

[Orosz] Mr. Nemeth, thank you and congratulations.

[Nemeth] Thank you again.

## Most Polling Stations Close; Results Compiled

*LD2503205690 Budapest MTI in English 1910 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 25 (MTI)—Most of the 11,000 polling stations up and down the country closed at 6 P.M. this evening, with only a few remaining open until 8 P.M.

Votes have now started to be counted nationwide.

Once compiled, the registers about how votes were cast on regional lists and for individual candidates will be delivered to the electoral committees in the individual constituencies.

There, results will be tallied by computer and forwarded to the regional electoral committee, before going on to the computer centre in the parliament building.

## Antall Discusses Elections, Policy Goals

*AU2303122690 Vienna DER STANDARD in German 23 Mar 90 p 4*

[Interview with Joszef Antall, leader of the Hungarian Democratic Forum, by Alexander Peter in Budapest; date not given: "We Will Continue To Play the Role of Trailblazer"]

[Text] [Peter] After four decades of communist dictatorship, the Hungarians will have an opportunity on Sunday [25 March] to hold free elections for the first time in 42 years. Nonetheless, about 50 percent of the electorate is undecided whether they should go voting at all. Is this indecision owing to the fact that the three large parties, the Hungarian Democratic Forum, the Alliance of Free Democrats, and the Small Holders' Party, have too similar programs, or the candidates are too dull and do not appeal to the voters?

[Antall] I think it has something to do with the fact that we have had a better life and more freedom in Hungary than the other East Bloc countries had in the past decades. The Kadar regime, a dictatorship with a different type of state model than the CSSR or Romania, marked us politically. In a multiparty system, it is, of course, most important that the parties' programs differ from each other.

[Peter] Is the lack of enthusiasm among the voters possibly attributable to the Hungarians' concerns about the market economy and cut-throat competition, and concerns about the future?

[Antall] Of course. The Hungarian people are worried now, they are uncertain, and they are not familiar enough with a functioning market economy. In some regions, there is already unemployment now.

[Peter] Do you think that unemployment will increase as the market economy is increasingly introduced in Hungary?

[Antall] Yes, definitely, at first. We are not prepared. As you know, there was no social infrastructure in the so-called socialist system.

[Peter] Not only outsiders have the impression that your only conflict with your main challenger, the Alliance of Free Democrats, is confined to the quarrel over the proper national holiday. Who would be your favorite partner for a coalition?

[Antall] The Smallholders' Party and the Christian Democratic People's Party are closest to us regarding political philosophy and tradition.

[Peter] Do you rule out a coalition with the socialists in the Hungarian Socialist Party?

[Antall] Of course.

[Peter] If the Budapest National Assembly elects you premier, where and how are you going to clear up the mess?

[Antall] Journalists may write about these things. However, I cannot possibly pose as a prime minister now. We are facing such a complex transition period that we cannot simplify things. We must combat inflation and unemployment. We must make sure that all authorities in the country, including local authorities, are loyal to the new government. These are our most important problems, and the Hungarian Democratic Forum has always played a dominant role in all these issues.

[Peter] You want to avoid a witch-hunt against those who wielded power in the past. Do you intend to allow the command apparatus which is still permeated with communists, to carry on?

[Antall] Of course, after all, we want to create a state ruled by the law. This state ruled by the law surely cannot begin this new period with unlawful methods. We want to have a different state, a different policy, and a different Hungary. That can only be had with new people. On the other hand, continuity must also be ensured. Therefore, we cannot fill all posts, all ministries, all authorities, and all firms with new people. We want to keep the best people there. However, they must be loyal to the new regime; then we will always be correct.

[Peter] Has the election victory of your Christian Democratic friends in the GDR enhanced your hopes?

[Antall] Yes, of course—the hopes of all center forces in Europe.

[Peter] Despite the incipient democratization, 90 percent of the Hungarian enterprises are still owned by the state.

[Antall] Our goal for the next three or five years is state ownership of 30 percent of all enterprises. What will come after that, we will see, and it will depend on how it works.

[Peter] Your goal is Hungary's neutrality. Will you leave the Warsaw Pact, if and when you have won the elections?

[Antall] That is not just an issue of proclamation. Of course, we want to have a brief transition period. We must maintain close contacts not only with the West but also with the Soviet Union, particularly in economic policy, because the Hungarian economic system is organized in a way that makes Soviet energy resources and raw materials very important for us. So we cannot simply give it all up, even though it creates a lot of problems. Practice will show us the proper way.

[Peter] You told the United States that you won World War III for America, so to speak, without a single soldier having been killed in action.

[Antall] Well, that was meant symbolically and should not be misunderstood. The Hungarians have always played the role of trailblazer; they did so following World War II, by holding free elections in 1956. We want to play this role of trailblazer again—in the European organizations.

## FRG's Genscher Arrives in Budapest for Talk

*LD2403192190 Budapest MTI in English 1653 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 24 (MTI)—Hans-Dietrich Genscher, vice-chancellor and minister for foreign affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany, arrived in Budapest on a brief visit on Saturday.

During the two-hour visit, the two sides are to sign agreements on visa-free travel between the two countries, the mutual recognition of university and college degrees, and the employment of German teachers in Hungarian schools.

### Visa Agreement Reached

*LD2403215890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] The agreement has been signed in Budapest abolishing visa requirements between Hungary and FRG.

One day before the elections confirming our European status, today we have received an invitation to the Europe House. This is how we could evaluate the agreements which were signed today in the Chamber of the

Representatives by West German Foreign Minister Hans Dietrich Genscher and Foreign Minister of Hungary Gyula Horn.

With the abolition of the visa requirements on 1 May, the demolition of the administrative iron curtain will follow the disappearance of the real iron curtain in the relations between the two countries.

Another agreement guarantees that both countries will recognize university and other higher education qualifications obtained in the other country.

The third agreement is on plans to send 50 German teachers to Hungary.

The fourth is on aiming to assist the training of Hungarian economists in management.

Following the signing of the agreement Foreign Minister Genscher presented Gyula Horn with the Grand Federal Service Cross for his actions in the interests of GDR refugees and for the open politics based on dialogue, which is a major contribution of Hungary to the creation of a democratic Europe.

## Horn Urges Council of Europe to Act on Romania

*LD2403232590 Budapest MTI in English 1615 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Lisbon, March 24 (MTI)—Hungary would welcome if the Council of Europe made every possible effort so that legal order be restored and the ethnic Hungarians protected in Romania, Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn told an MTI correspondent in Lisbon where he attended the foreign ministerial session of the Council of Europe. The foreign ministers of 23 West European and six East European countries discussed the future of the united Europe, including the issues of Transylvanian refugees, German reunification, and the Hungarian-Romanian ethnic conflict in Transylvania.

We Hungarians are proud of having been the first in Eastern Europe to recognize the significance of the Council of Europe and apply for admission, Mr Horn said in his contribution to the session. Hungary has undergone a change in system, gained sovereignty in its foreign policy, and guaranteed the free flow of people and ideas he said.

Mr Horn asked the Council of Europe member states to provide support for the new parliament and government to be set up after the elections.

Mr Horn is to return to Hungary today in the company of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, foreign minister of the FRG. Mr Genscher is to present an honor to Mr Horn in recognition of his merits in opening the Hungaro-Austrian border for the refugees who had refused to return to the GDR. Mr Genscher is scheduled. to visit and hold a brief press conference at, the headquarters of the Alliance of Free Democrats.

## Deputy Minister Szokai Faults Romanian Leaders

*LD2303184290 Budapest MTI in English 1635 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 23 (MTI)—According to the latest information available to the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, there are currently no atrocities in Romania, but the situation is still alarming. The racist political forces continue to incite the Romanian and Hungarian peoples against each other, not refraining even from using violent means, Hungarian Deputy Foreign Minister Imre Szokai told a news conference on Friday.

Szokai stressed that the Tirgu Mures tragedy was a warning to the Romanian leaders, as well as to the whole of Europe, that failure to find a satisfactory solution to the problem may bring about a potential Karabakh in Europe. Given the present circumstances, the frontiers of Europe are at the Hungarian-Romanian border, he said.

In connection with the reasons behind the conflict, the deputy foreign minister pointed out that the real cause was the ambiguous, controversial attitude of the Romanian leadership to the individual and collective rights of Romanian Hungarians.

Hungary concludes with regret that the Romanian Government fails to meet the commitments it voluntarily accepted under international agreements, that it fails to ensure the security of its citizens and that it does not hinder the operation of the racist organizations.

As regards the future of the Hungarian-Romanian bilateral relations, Mr Szokai recalled the fact that in the wake of the December revolution, the Hungarian leadership pointed out clearly to the Romanian leadership that the development of bilateral relations was not possible without a satisfactory settlement of the situation of the Hungarian community in Romania.

The Hungarian side has made several practical proposals to what specific measures should be taken beyond words to promote the approach between the two peoples. The Romanian side has not so far given any genuine reply to Hungarian proposals.

In reply to a question, Mr Szokai said he was sorry that not one responsible Romanian leader had received the Hungarian ambassador to Romania during the critical days. Had the Romanian leaders taken the Hungarian worries seriously, the bloodshed could have been prevented. The connection between high-ranking Hungarian and Romanian leaders is still unsatisfactory, and the Romanian Government seems to be in favour of sending messages instead of direct contact.

The latest example of this was Prime Minister Petre Roman's statement that he wished to get in touch with Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth. However, the call the Hungarian Government head had waited for from his Romanian counterpart did not come.

## Romania's Revised Statement on T. Mures Viewed

*LD2303221990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Our special correspondent in Bucharest, Peter Marvanyi, has sent a report.

[Marvanyi] The Bucharest Government has begun a revision of its position, in connection with the Transylvanian events. According to the government statement in the evening, there is no proof that there may have been provocations from the Magyars in the counties of Harghita and Covasna. However, the statement, for the time being, does not withdraw earlier allegations, in connection with the truly serious, bloody disturbances in Tirgu Mures. However, vis-a-vis all of Romania, it promises that the education system will soon be reorganized in the interest of mother tongue teaching for the minorities. [passage omitted]

The evening demonstration by Vatra Romaneasca in Tirgu Mures ended without any violent action. This is a good sign, as is the statement of the Cluj and Bucharest organizations of Vatra Romaneasca, which appeals for reconcilliation. The evening government statement was supplemented by Premier Petre Roman in person, a few minutes ago, on Bucharest TV. According to the passage which was omitted [as heard] the leaders of counties of Covasna and Harghita guarantee employment opportunities for workers of Romanian nationality who live there; as it is known, one of the main causes of the nationality tension there is that the Romanian teachers are afraid that they will not have any work, owing to the Magyar schools, and that they will have to leave.

In this same TV report, Petre Roman reacted to the statement by Gyula Horn, saying that it did not put the Romanian-Magyar relationship back into the normal channel. Petre Roman denied the statement by Gyula Horn, that the Hungarian ambassador in Bucharest was unable to contact him. I did not receive any such request from the ambassador, said the Romanian premier.

After the statement, I telephoned Ambassador Pal Szuets, who said the following: At nine o'clock on Wednesday morning he had presented himself at the Foreign Ministry, as is customary, so that he should be able to meet Petre Roman or Iliescu. Since then, he has not received a reply to his request.

## Karpati Recounts Actions Concerning Tirgu Mures

*AU2303140690 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 22 Mar 90 p 3*

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Ferenc Karpati by Peter Vajda in Budapest on 21 March: "Unfounded Rumors on Hungarian Troops Concentrations Only Serve Chauvinism"]

[Text] Ferenc Karpati has spoken twice on the telephone with representatives of the Romanian military command in the last one-and-one-half days. Ferenc Karpati expressed the demand that the Romanian Army should act in Tirgu Mures and in Transylvania to ensure the rights of the persecuted Hungarian national minority. Peter Vajda interviewed him in his office on 21 March.

[Vajda] Mr Karpati, what did you discuss with the Romanian military leaders in the last two days in connection with the events in Tirgu Mures?

[Karpati] I must begin by saying that Premier Miklos Nemeth called me up at my home late at night on 19 March and informed me about the events in Tirgu Mures and Andras Suto's fate. He asked me to get information from the Romanian military leadership and find out what they are doing in order to halt the bloody disturbances, and to ask their help to bring Andras Suto to Hungary. I immediately tried to contact the Romanian military leaders. However, it was impossible to find them for hours, and I could not contact the defense minister either; I succeeded in contacting the chief of staff on the morning of 20 March. I expressed my shock at the events, and I reminded him of the recent high-level meeting; I also told him that, in the current situation, the Romanian Army should take firm measures in order to halt the anti-Hungarian disturbances. I also complained about the fact that we could not contact them earlier, something that did not depend on us.

[Vajda] What did the Romanian chief of staff answer?

[Karpati] He said they would find the culprits—whom he called hooligans—and bring them to trial on the basis of existing photographs, and they would take strict measures to make sure that such events can never happen again. At my request, the Romanian chief of staff agreed to allow us to bring Andras Suto home.

[Vajda] When did you succeed in talking to the defense minister?

[Karpati] Mr Stanculescu called me up this morning and expressed his sincere regret at what had happened. He said that forces opposing the December revolution are acting to spoil the relations between Romanians, Hungarians, and the other nationalities who have been living together for centuries. Mr Stanculescu said that a government commission had left for Tirgu Mures to investigate the matter. He also said that they had concentrated strong military forces in Tirgu Mures which are controlling the major institutions.

[Vajda] What did you say during this conversation?

[Karpati] I said that, in the current situation, it would be desirable to bring the real culprits in the brutal anti-Hungarian atrocities to trial as quickly as possible. Mr Stanculescu said that many rumors have recently been circulating, and he asked me a question in connection with this....

[Vajda] Specifically?

[Karpati] He asked me whether it was true that the Hungarian Army had been deployed to the eastern part of the country, from their positions in the west of our country. I told him that, naturally, we did not take such measures.

[Vajda] What could be the origin of these Romanian rumors about such a concentration of the Hungarian Army, and who could benefit from such false rumors?

[Karpati] Such rumors would help to strengthen chauvinism and increase the anti-Hungarian hysteria. Besides, I also told the Romanian defense minister that it is extremely unfortunate that, in cases of such serious events taking place near our borders, the Hungarian defense minister is unable to contact the competent Romanian leaders.

[Vajda] Mr Karpati, what is your opinion about the reports according to which Romanian officers also participated in the brutal anti-Hungarian events, and in your view, to what extent can we believe the words of the military leadership in Bucharest?

[Karpati] We have already had information that, just like in the local leadership, there are also people among the Army officers whose acts are dictated by extremist chauvinism. As for the second part of your question, in my conversation with the Romanian defense minister, I repeatedly expressed our view on the great role and responsibility of the Romanian Army; I told him that I consider it necessary that the Romanian Army should take firm measures aimed at ensuring human rights and defending the threatened Hungarian minority there, and naturally, judgment will be made only on the basis of the facts.

[Vajda] In conclusion, another question: Andras Suto is being treated in a military hospital. What do you know about his condition?

[Karpati] All I can say is that we have chosen our best doctors. I myself have instructed that I be regularly informed about Andras Suto's condition several times a day, and we all hope he will recover soon.

## Government Regrets Malev Decision on Jews

*LD2403220790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] [Announcer] It was with regret that the Hungarian Government heard that Malev [Hungarian airlines] has halted the transport to Israel of Jews intending to emigrate from the Soviet Union, because this decision amounts to encouragement for international terrorism. At the same time the government emphasizes that the enterprise's management took the decision on its own authority, and only because it feared for the safety of its network, its passengers, and staff. Our newsreader (Jozsef Bozai) gives further details on the standpoint.

[Bozai] The Council of Ministers has authorised the Foreign Ministry to announce that government considers the threat against the Hungarian national airline to be an act which violates the sovereignty of the Republic of Hungary. Government, in harmony with its concept and practice of human rights, considers it necessary to resolve the problem as soon as possible, in a lawful and humane manner which keeps safety considerations in mind to the maximum, and it is ready to provide assistance for this. The standpoint of the Council of Ministers stresses that the permission for the Soviet Jews who intend to resettle in Israel to leave pertains exclusively to the Soviet Government. The prevention, by means of terrorist threat, of the implementation of the Soviet decision, which is based on respect for human rights, is contrary to international law and accepted norms.

## Malev To Resume Carrying Jews to Israel

*LD2503230290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Malev [Hungarian Airlines] will shortly resume carrying Soviet Jewish immigrants to Israel. This was announced by Csaba Huetter, Hungarian minister for Agriculture and Food who arrived in Tel Aviv yesterday. As an explanation he added that the earlier decision of Malev conflicted with the opinion of the government, and it was a question of purely temporary problems.

Newspapers in Egypt yesterday had articles in which they said, we are quoting: Israel threatened Hungary with economic sanctions because of the Malev decision, and also from Jerusalem REUTER yesterday reported that the deputy director of the Foreign Ministry of Israel travelled to Budapest to discuss the matter.

## Malev Office in Bucharest Hit by Arsonists

*LD2503073690 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0700 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] At dawn today in Bucharest, unknown persons set fire to the Malev [Hungarian Airlines] office. The firemen quickly doused the flames, but even so, the telex room of the Hungarian Airlines office was burned out.

### Protest to Romania

*LD2503105790 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1000 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Peter Marvanyi report from Bucharest—recorded]

[Text] The walls are still warm after the fire during the night at the Malev office in Bucharest. It is quite certain that the fire was not accidental, or caused for example by an electrical fault. The perpetrators broke the glass entrance door, and not only did they set fire to one of the inner rooms, they also ransacked the others. They flung out the contents of the cupboards and drawers, as if they had been looking for something. The pavement outside the office is littered with burnt furniture, with fragments of glass and soot everywhere. There are policemen with machineguns at the entrance, and there are curious passers-by, who for the most part are sympathetic.

It will take weeks for the office to be repaired, but the leader of the Malev local office, (Sandor Turi) decided that despite what has happened they will not halt work, but will continue to work in a room that has remained relatively undamaged. The flights will not be halted either.

Before our bulletin, a note from the Bucharest Hungarian embassy was sent to the Foreign Ministry. In this, they inform the Foreign Ministry about what has happened. They request a strict investigation, the uncovering of the perpetrators, and that they be called to account, as well as briefings about all this. The note indicates that in the interests of preventing further terror actions, the inciting propaganda which is underway against Hungary and Hungarian citizens, which stirs up the crowds through the Romanian mass media, must be halted. At the same time, the embassy calls on the Romanian authorities to guarantee the protection of the embassy, the commercial branch, and the Hungarian interest buildings, as well as the physical safety and immunity of commissioned Hungarian citizens. In the anti-Hungarian climate which has been artificially created, the Romanian side bears all responsibility for any undesirable events which may happen, states the note sent to the Foreign Ministry in conclusion.

## MSZMP's Charge Against Nemeth Dropped

*LD2303225790 Budapest MTI in English 1438 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 23 (MTI)—The Chief Public Prosecutor's Office has now ruled on the charge the Acting Secretariat of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party [MSZMP—HSWP] brought against Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth.

The accusation was that the prime minister upset public calm and committed other offences by reading out to parliament a letter from a citizen claiming that certain former HSWP county leaders plotted to stall the social changes with reliance on external help.

On the basis of the data at its disposal, the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office has established that the letter Miklos Nemeth read out at the March 2 parliamentary session was closely connected with the meeting's agenda, namely the use of special secret service methods.

Since a contribution to parliament in keeping with the constitution does not amount to a crime, the Chief Public Prosecutor's Office has declined to order an investigation into the matter.

## NEPSZABADSAG Sold to Press Foundation

*LD2303112190 Budapest MTI in English 1045 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Budapest, March 23, 1990 (MTI-ECONEWS)—The Hungarian Socialist Party has ceded ownership of "NEPSZABADSAG", its highest circulation daily newspaper, to the Hungarian Press Foundation.

The daily was officially valued at 200 million forints (3 million USD).

The foundation expects to set up a publishing company, probably with the involvement of the Hungarian Socialist Party's own newspaper publishers.

Two unspecified West German companies are said to be interested in buying a stake in the new publishing company, which is to have a capital of 600 million forints.

The founders want to keep the foreign stake under 20 percent.

"NEPSZABADSAG" intends to remain committed to leftist ideas, and will only team up with western partners that accept this criterion.

"NEPSZABADSAG" was founded in November, 1956, by the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party that had exclusive rule of the country until last year.

The daily's current circulation figures are 360,000 copies on weekdays and up to 390,000 on weekends.

## KPN Appeal To 'Recognize Free Lithuania'

*LD2303173190 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0200 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Representatives of the KPN [Confederation for an Independent Poland] demonstrated in Krakow in front of the monument to Adam Mickiewicz under the slogan: Recognize free Lithuania! All day, signatures were collected under an appeal to the premier to recognize the sovereignty of the Republic of Lithuania immediately, to establish diplomatic relations, and to provide comprehensive help to the Lithuanian nation during the difficult period of its process of regaining independence. Between 10-20,000 signatures have already been collected under the appeal.

## Lithuanian Delegation Arrives in Warsaw

*LD2303235490 Warsaw PAP in English 2157 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Warsaw, March 23—Under the new Solidarity-led government, the Lithuanian minority in Poland should have more rights guaranteed than to-date, said members of a delegation of the Lithuanian Sajudis here today. The delegation has come to Warsaw at the invitation from the chairman of the Citizens' Parliamentary Caucus (OKP) Bronislaw Geremek.

The head of the Lithuanian delegation, Virgilijus Cepaitis said that Lithuania should also expand economic cooperation with Poland. Deputy Senate Speaker Andrzej Wielowieyski and Deputy Janusz Onyszkiewicz assured the delegation of OKP's support for the national aspirations of Lithuania.

Also today, KPN (Confederation for Independent Poland) NZS (Independent Students' Association) and TKK PPS (Provisional Executive Commission of the Polish Socialist Party) organized a demonstration in support of Lithuania. Some 150 demonstrators marched to the office of the Council of Ministers calling on the government to immediately recognize Lithuania's independence. Some of the protesters demonstrated in front of the Soviet Embassy in Warsaw.

## Sajudis Representative Asks for Recognition

*LD2403171590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1300 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Algimantas Cekuolis, a member of the leadership of the Communist Party of Lithuania responsible for international contacts in the Sajudis Council, in a talk with a Polish Press Agency correspondent, has stated that telephone and telex lines between Lithuania and the rest of the world are increasingly being blocked. Pressure is also being exerted on foreign journalists to leave Lithuania and they are removed for whatever reason, which might seem to augur the preparation of brutal solutions. The Sajudis representative appealed for Poland to recognize Lithuania, saying that a friend in need is a true friend indeed.

## Spokeswoman on Mazowiecki-IMF Talks, Borders

*LD2303121190 Warsaw PAP in English 0940 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[By PAP Correspondents Jerzy Gorski, Ryszard Piekarowicz]

[Text] Washington, March 23—Polish Government Spokeswoman Malgorzata Niezabitowska held a press conference today at which she spoke about talks between Prime Minister Mazowiecki and IMF Director Michel Camdessus and the head of the IMF European Department Massimo Russo.

The IMF officials very highly assessed the to-date implementation of the economic program, particularly the result of curbing inflation, Niezabitowska said.

She stressed that the IMF leadership boosted the Polish Government's conviction about the need to consistently continue the reform program and warned against a departure from the provisions of reform as this would have extremely dangerous effects on the economy and Polish society.

The IMF officials fully agree with Prime Minister Mazowiecki that outside aid is immensely important for the effective execution of the reforms, the spokeswoman stated.

Referring to foreign aid for Poland, Camdessus announced that the issue of aid for Poland and relief in debt repayment would be discussed once again during this year's G-7 summit of the most industrialized countries of the world, Niezabitowska revealed.

She stressed the significance which the Polish delegation attached to efforts aimed at convincing President Bush and the U.S. administration about a legal solution to the issue of Poland's western border in line with the country's fundamental interests.

We got the impression that the American side does not quite understand why we want a treaty on the border with Germany, a treaty which would be initialled still before Germany's unification, Spokeswoman Niezabitowska said.

Prime Minister Mazowiecki tried to explain our stance on this matter, presenting it in a very broad international and historical context. President Bush agreed with the prime minister that Poland's stand should be taken into account as concerns matters of importance for the Polish nation's interests.

During a meeting with leaders of both chambers of the U.S. Congress and with chairmen and members of the Foreign Affairs Committees of the House of Representatives and the Senate, the prime minister said that relations with the U.S. have top priority for Poland.

Referring to the challenge stemming from the unification of Germany, Premier Mazowiecki said that the new European order should be adequate to changes which took place in Central and East Europe. The premier also added that Poland expects from the U.S. active participation in pan-European processes.

The shaping of a new European order demands the restructuring of existing political and military structures which will become inadequate to realities. Poland is not for their quick dismantling but in favor of their revolutionary [as received] modification.

At the present moment, Poland intends to remain within the Warsaw Treaty. Undertaking activities aimed at its democratization. However, through this participation Poland does not want to be involved in global competition and contradictions. It also cannot be interpreted as a sign of contradiction or even dissimilarity of interests and political values to those, held by the U.S. and other Western states. We especially do not want it to be a restraint in the development of our relations with the West, said Mazowiecki.

The prime minister requested better distribution of financial resources from the enterprise fund and support for Poland's participation in the "Brady Plan" (partial debt reduction) to reduce the Polish debt owed to commercial banks by a quarter.

Undersecretary of State at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs [name indistinct] signed an education agreement with the head of the Information Agency B. Gelb on establishing a scientific exchange centre. A Council composed of three representatives of Poland and three representatives of the U.S. will be set up under the agreement to handle funds collecting and scholarship distribution.

## Premier Mazowiecki News Conference in Washington

*LD2403075790 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1830 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[News conference with Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki by local and foreign reporters in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Interpreter] The question is whether the prime minister in explaining all the complicated issues of the (?Polish) situation [passage indistinct] and the complicated nature of that situation.

[Mazowiecki] Of course, yes. I was aware of that, and I am now even more certain than before. Of course, different problems tend to be perceived differently by the United States and by Poland. For instance the German issue is seen in a different way in Poland than in the United States. But I believe that our conversations have made our understanding deeper.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Moderator] We understand that the question concerns the recognition of the Lithuanian Government by the Polish Government. Premier Mazowiecki expressed interest as to whom the question was from.

[Mazowiecki] The Polish position on this issue was defined by the cabinet statement issued the day after the Lithuanian parliament had declared independence. Summing up that position, the statement said that the Polish Government took note of the declaration by the Lithuanian parliament regarding the independence of Lithuania, that the Polish Government is sympathetic to Lithuania aspirations and that it strongly urges all the parties concerned, or involved in it, to resolve the issues in a peaceful way. As we have stated, we hope that Lithuania and the Soviet Union will settle their mutual problems, and that position has not changed on the part of Poland, and I believe that this position is shared by the Polish people. As you know, we have a historical relationship with Lithuania, and I think that no other government, as you know, went further.

[Mazowiecki] [passage indistinct] What I would advise him would be to avoid extreme moves and then I would advise him to first talk, second—talk, and third—talk. [passage omitted on U.S. influence on the course of events in establishing the new European order. Mazowiecki says this can be achieved by political and economic means and initiatives]

[Unidentified reporter] There has been word going on in some circles here that a new united Germany could insist that as a condition of being in NATO [words indistinct] to return to the pre-World War II boundaries. I am wondering what is the greater threat to Poland: a neutral Germany outside NATO or a Germany aligned with NATO, but in pre-World WAR II boundaries?

[Mazowiecki] I think that an overwhelming majority of all people in Europe, and perhaps all countries in Europe, agree that all borders should be inviolable. By defending our western borders, we are also defending the inviolability of all borders in general. And whoever is familiar with the history of Europe will easily realize what would happen if borders in Europe, all of a sudden, were to be changed. As far as Poland is concerned, it is a vital issue because it concerns one-third of our population, and one-third of our territory. Therefore no discussion at all is conceivable here.

However, we also want to rule out for the future all ambiguities regarding this issue. We desire this in the name of Polish-German reconciliation, since we are aware that we are going to be living as neighbors to a unified German state. We see no obstacles to this, and we will make firm efforts to achieve this. We have here the support of all of Europe, and we have the support of a significant proportion of the Germans too.

As far as your first question is concerned, Sir, Poland is not an advocate of the neutralization of Germany. We believe that such a large country in the heart of Europe cannot be made neutral, because this would soon invoke a secondary, negative reaction in Germany. We believe that it would be in the interests of a future Europe and future good relations between Germany and its neighbors for Germany to be incorporated into a larger European mechanism. This position necessarily defines our attitude to Germany's continued presence in the NATO accord in keeping with the concept outlined by Minister Genscher. We believe, however, that in order to win the approval of all the powers for such a solution, we must take into account the problem of European balance, and that from this point of view, Minister Genscher's plan must be supplemented. [passage omitted containing question on the Palestinian issue, followed by question on how the U.S. experience can be applied in Poland with regard to self-government]

[Reporter] [Words indistinct]

[Moderator] The question concerns the connection between the unification of Germany and the withdrawal of Soviet troops. The reporter wanted to know whether Premier Mazowiecki would be prepared to begin the withdrawal of Soviet forces from Poland before acquiring treaty guarantees from both German states, or also from the unified Germany. At present, the interpreter, Krzysztof Lipinski, is translating this question into Polish.

I want to take advantage of a spare moment, since the premier is about to go up to the microphone, just to mention that Mr. (Broniarek) who has already posed a question, is also on the podium.

[Mazowiecki] I believe that as far as Soviet force reductions and troops reductions are concerned, I believe they will be achieved within the framework of an agreement reducing these forces to the level of 195,000. The Soviet forces stationed in Poland, which, if I am not mistaken, have a total size of about 58,000 troops, are the support force for Soviet forces stationed in East Germany, so it is interconnected. I do believe, however, that we will see a speedy reduction of forces down to the 195,000 level, and that then, the Soviet forces will completely withdraw from Poland. Regarding the beginning of your question, Madam, let me reiterate once again our position, that it is still vital for us to have our border reaffirmed by a treaty prior to unification, in the form of the initialling of this treaty by both German governments.

Someone could ask why we attach so much importance to this. My answer is that we do not want to see the whole debate on this subject starting all over again after unification. If in the discussions thus far, Chancellor Kohl expressed fears, or said that his position had been expressed repeatedly in private conversation as regards the clear, unequivocal recognition of this frontier, then this left certain problems as regards him saying how matters would stand after the unification of Germany.

If he said this on account of the voters on the right of his party or the republicans, if Chancellor Kohl feared this, then if Kohl himself fears this, so all the more should we fear it. Besides, please understand us, we greatly appreciate the democratic changes in West Germany, but we do not think that such deep changes have taken place in East Germany. This was simply a transition from life under one totalitarian system to life under another totalitarian system.

And we must ask ourselves the question: Which forces in the unified Germany will be joined by the people of this part of Germany? For all these reasons, we do not think there is any need to postpone these things in any way. We believe that it must be absolutely clarified within these talks, so that the future unified German state should be obliged to confirm these treaty-based, initialled agreements in a relatively short space of time, and for the future unified German state to confirm within its constitution that it has no territorial claims against anyone. [passage omitted on news conference ending due to lack of time]

## Mazowiecki Hosts Reception at Polish Embassy

*LD2403111190 Warsaw PAP in English*
*1235 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Washington, March 23—Polish Premier Tadeusz Mazowiecki laid a wreath at the tomb of John Kennedy, U.S. president in 1961-1963, at the Arlington Cemetery here Thursday [22 March].

The Polish premier met U.S. Vice-President Dan Quayle late afternoon.

Tadeusz Mazowiecki gave a reception at the Polish Embassy here last night. The following officials arrived at the reception:

Members of the U.S. Administration: Labour Secretary Elizabeth Dole, Acting Secretary of State Lawrence Eagleburger, Secretary of State for Veterans Eduard Derwinski and also John Cardinal Krol, President of the World Bank Barber Conable, leaders of the U.S. Congress, Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Colin Powell, President of the Polish-American Congress Jan Nowak-Jezioranski, former U.S. presidential national Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski, chief of the AFL-CIO Lane Kirkland, businessmen and artists.

For many representatives of Polish-Americans, the reception was the first one at which they arrived at the Polish Embassy in the entire post-war period.

## Skubiszewski, Belgian Premier Comment on Visit

*LD2203071990 Warsaw PAP in English*
*2303 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] Brussels, March 21—In their two-day talks, heads of the Polish and Belgian diplomacy Krzysztof Skubiszewski and Mark Eyskens showed full concordance of views and expectations. This opinion was presented by the two ministers during their short meeting with journalists.

On the second day of his official visit to Belgium, Krzysztof Skubiszewski met with the chairman of the Chamber of representatives of the Parliament Charles

Ferdinand Nothomb and Premier Wilfred Martens and was received by King of the Belgians, Baudouin. Skubiszewski also continued his talks with his Belgium counterpart.

Asked during a short press conference whether he was not disappointed at the results of the elections in the GDR as they consolidated the position of Chancellor Kohl which is equivocal on the matter of Polish borders, Skubiszewski said: "I do not think that we are disappointed. We accept the result as a sign of the free will of the nation and as concerns the border, we do not think that the groups which won the elections find the issue to be open. In the GDR, there is a general approval for these borders, this concerns also Christian Democrats.

Asked about Poland's association with the EC, Skubiszewski said: "This is the permanent point of our agenda. Poland is ready to start negotiations on her association with the EC. We are certainly interested in becoming a member but it is not the matter of today or tomorrow. Poland must first marshal her economic system," Skubiszewski said.

Speaking to PAP's correspondent, Minister Mark Eyskens said: "we are of the opinion that the participation of Poland in the two-plus-four talks on the matters directly concerning Poland is a success of the Polish diplomacy. As concerns the essence of the matter, we believe, that the Oder-Neisse border must be confirmed. This has always been the stance of the Belgian Government."

In the late afternoon, Skubiszewski visited NATO's headquarters. He held a long talk with NATO's Secretary-General Manfred Woerner and later with ambassadors of 16 member-states. Participants in the meeting discussed matters pertaining to European security in the context of the German unification process as well as prospects of new security structures in Europe.

After the talks, while answering questions from journalists, Minister Skubiszewski expressed the opinion that NATO, and particularly the presence of U.S. troops in Europe is, in the present situation, a stability factor on the continent. Skubiszewski recalled that Poland does not support the idea of neutrality of a united Germany. There is a proposal that NATO forces in a United Germany should not be stationed on the territory of the present-day GDR, Skubiszewski said and added that this solution met with the interest of many states.

### Skubiszewski Not Concerned Over German Border

*AU2403194690 Mainz ZDF Television Network in German 1800 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] Hans-Dietrich Genscher came to Lisbon together with Polish Foreign Minister Skubiszewksi. Quite deliberately, he wanted the Warsaw government to be the first to be briefed in this way on his talks with the U.S. and Soviet foreign ministers in Namibia. As early as yesterday, Polish objections to German unification were reduced to a clear statement on the border issue at the West European Union conference in Luxembourg.

[Begin Skubiszewski recording] In this speech he mentioned the Oder-Neisse border as the final border. Thus, I really do not see any problems. [end recording] [passage omitted]

### Minister Czyrek on Polish-German Relations

*AU2303215390 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 21 Mar 90 p 5*

[Interview with Jozef Czyrek, minister of state at the office of the president, by Zbigniew Ramotowski; place and date not given: "I Would Give Optimism a Chance"]

[Excerpts] [Ramotowski] Do you remember what you were doing on 3 June 1971?

[Czyrek] I remember that date particularly well. The date is specially important for me as a Pole and as an official of the Polish diplomatic service. On this particular day, secretary of state at the FRG Foreign Ministry, Paul Frank and I, as deputy foreign minister, exchanged the documents that ratified the Polish-FRG Treaty of 7 December 1970. That treaty laid the foundations for the normalization of Polish-FRG relations. At that precise moment the treaty, which formed the foundation and defined the criteria of our further dialogue with the FRG, came into force. The long and arduous struggle to have Poland's border on the Odra-Nysa Rivers recognized as its western border, had finally drawn to a close. The FRG was the only country which hitherto had refused to accord us this recognition. [passage omitted]

[Ramotowski] In your capacity as expert on German affairs and as minister of state in the office of the president, has the Mazowiecki government addressed the right questions to the two reunifying Germanies, and did it adopt an appropriate position?

[Czyrek] I believe that Poland's position—as articulated in statements made by the president, for example, in his reply to President Weizsaecker's letter on the 50th anniversary of World War II, the statements and proposals made by Premier Mazowiecki—and the endeavors of Minister Skubiszewski, fully reflect the vital and fundamental interests of the Polish state, the feelings of Poles in Poland and abroad, and are in harmony with the interests of a new Europe, which is in the process of being created.

[Ramotowski] This sounds so splendid that it smacks of political courtesy.

[Czyrek] This is not courtesy. It reflects facts that are of practical importance. The fact that diverse centers of state authority, not to mention the various political orientations, have spoken with a unanimous voice simplified the attainment of the common goal in those matters that are of fundamental importance to Poland. Apart from the justice of the matter itself, this united front has been crucial in securing the support and understanding of other countries for the Polish position.

[Ramotowski] Is there any tangible proof of this?

[Czyrek] Of course there is. For example, Poland's place in the "two plus four" negotiations is a striking success which supports this argument. I would also like to mention the recent and important visit of a Polish delegation in Paris which had such bearing on the above success. The composition of the delegation that was headed by the president and the premier attest to this. Poland's concerted internal front in the face of the problems linked with German reunification was instrumental in highlighting the convergent, or even identical Polish-French position in this matter. I would add that the rapprochement between Warsaw and Paris is not intended to have the character of some anti-German alliance. Both Poland and France are interested in German rapprochement and, looking at it historically, in a reconciliation with the Germans. Quite simply, we want our interests to be guaranteed and we want Germany to become a constructive factor in the European situation.

[Ramotowski] Are we no longer guided by our old mistrust of Germany?

[Czyrek] On the contrary, we are striving to remove all ambiguities and misunderstandings that might otherwise cloud or hinder our future relations.

[Ramotowski] Are you hoping that we shall finally pass from the stage of legalistic and political wrangling over the borders to a stage that will be characterized by good neighborly relations and general cooperation?

[Czyrek] I hope that this happens.

[Ramotowski] Are you a born optimist?

[Czyrek] I would rather be called an optimist from experience. I think that the historical optimism of the Poles is an important factor. Without it there would no longer have been a Poland. Polish historical optimism which has so often accompanied us in our history may today have an opportunity to reaffirm itself as concerns Polish-German relations.

[Ramotowski] Thank you for the interview.

## Walesa Accused of Betraying Workers' Interest

*LD2303104190 Warsaw PAP in English 2243 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Gdansk, March 22—Solidarity Leader Lech Walesa met with newsmen and the crew of the commercial port here today.

At the beginning, Lech Walesa presented a statement on the situation in Transylvania.

Answering questions on his meeting with the Czechoslovak president Walesa said he learnt more from the press than he himself could say. "We were discussing how to be together when it is necessary and how to preserve intimacy in order not to limit each other," said he.

He spoke with moderate enthusiasm about the idea of employees' self-management. "I found out that self-management rarely passes the test in the world, even in Japan, but it seems necessary in Poland," Walesa stated.

Walesa skeptically spoke about the concept of earlier parliamentary and presidential elections. "Theorists think that political changes will solve all problems. People are now waiting more for economic results," said he.

"I warned in 1981 against our new nomenklatura. I will do everything to prevent any nomenklatura, including the Solidarity one, from emerging. We must not become a monopoly. The more solidarity loses to new political forces in elections to self-governments the better. It would be a defeat if we lost to the old nomenklatura, however," Walesa said.

Numerous questions concerned the present economic situation, especially growing unemployment. Lech Walesa argued these were the necessary and inevitable costs of introducing the reform into the economy.

Questions concerning Walesa's union policy and activity aroused emotions. Walesa was attacked by the workers, accused of hypocrisy and betrayal of workers' interests as well as of departure from the ideals of August 1980. The Solidarity leader said such attacks were a palpable proof of the existence in Poland of pluralism which enabled everybody to speak what he thought.

Lech Walesa also said he was willing to meet Andrzej Gwiazda (former vice-chairman of Solidarity and his opponent), Kornel Morawiecki (chairman of the Fighting Solidarity) and Marian Jurczyk leader of Solidarity 180).

"I am not afraid of them as they are not right. I have been elevated by masses and I will remain faithful to you," said he.

## USSR Suspends 'Visa-Free' Border Crossings

*LD2303232590 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 2210 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] From outward appearances today has been no different than yesterday in Lithuania. [passage omitted] All Soviet diplomatic and consular representations abroad have received a request to introduce stricter directives for regulating the granting of entry permits. This measure, writes TASS, is to make access to this Soviet republic impossible for people who are inclined to act against the law. Our Foreign Affairs Ministry has also been informed of the interim suspension of the simplified and visa-free means of crossing the Polish-Soviet border. The issuing of so-called multiple entry visas to foreigners has been suspended. [passage omitted]

## Talks Focus on Privatization, Minimum Wage

*LD2203113790 Warsaw PAP in English 0012 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Warsaw, March 21—Representatives of the government and Solidarity held the second round of talks here today.

The talks focused on ownership transformations in the economy, wage system and a minimum wage as well as issues connected with raising the indexation rate and excessive wage tax.

Representatives of Solidarity called upon the government for increasing the pace of privatisation process and expressed their dissatisfaction with its hitherto course, charging the government with putting a brake to privatisation through imposing a ceiling limiting its scale.

Representatives of the government agreed as to the necessity of accelerating the process of privatisation pointing at the same time to the danger connected with its uncontrolled progress.

Both sides reached an agreement as to the minimum wage. The union has proposed that the floor wage constitute 42-45 per cent of the average wage in five sectors of the economy.

The governmental side agreed to hold talks on the delays in the realisation of the law on wages in the budget sphere still this month.

The next round of talks is to be held this April 6.

## Trust in Government, Solidarity Seen Declining

*LD2503135290 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 1005 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Interview with Professor Stanislaw Kwiatkowski, director of the Center for Public Opinion Research, by unidentified reporter; place and date not given]

[Excerpts] [Interviewer] Professor Stanislaw Kwiatkowski, director of the Center for Public Opinion Research, is our guest. Professor, we have not met for a long time in this studio. There is certainly a very large number of subjects that have been researched by the center, and have been analyzed, which interest various recipients and public opinion, in particular. What shall we start with?

[Kwiatkowski] Quite a lot of important changes have taken place in public opinion since then. We ought to start with...

[Interviewer, interrupting]...the popularity of the government, Professor.

[Kwiatkowski] Alright, that is quite a measurable indicator of what's happening in Poland. Public support for the government itself and the political groups, which created it, remains unalterably high, although the drop since last autumn is already clear. The government, the Council of Ministers, commands the trust of nearly three quarters of society, but since November a drop of 13 points has occurred. Other political bodies are similarly losing social trust. The Sejm has lost 14 points, with the senate losing to the greatest degree, and both speakers, about 17 points. Solidarity has also seen a drop of 12 percent. At the moment the government's ratings are on the level of previous teams, as they had the highest ratings at the start, both the government of Premier Messner and Rakowski in their best period commanded the support of more than 70 percent, and later quickly lost it.

[Interviewer] But don't you think, Professor, that this apparent drop in popularity, and also the drop in positive expectations in the government, that the Sejm may not be connected with the difficult economic program which has been introduced? After all one could say quite a lot about the program itself, and the public's reception of it.

[Kwiatkowski] This is not only a question of the program itself. Naturally, Premier Balcerowicz's program is the most important here, but what is probably considerably more important is that this government has quite vulnerable support, very high, but vulnerable in the sense that it is support of a political nature. It is exactly the same kind of shift in hopes, as happened at the changes of previous successive government teams. [passage omitted]

The premier at present commands enormous trust, at a level of 89 percent, although in the [word indistinct] period in November he had 95 percent. Lech Walesa has 79 percent, but he had 93, and that therefore is a clear drop of 14 points. I have already spoken about the Senate and Sejm speakers, they are both clearly losing. The president has at the moment 61 percent, but it was 69 percent in November. To be quite clear, those are replies to the question on whether the given person serves society well, in accordance with his interests. Those percentages come precisely from replies to those questions. We systematically ask the people we poll the question: Whom would they vote for if elections were to be held next Sunday? It is characteristic, but the fall here is clearly seen in comparison with November. In the case of Solidarity, it was 56 percent in November, and at the moment only 41 percent.

[Interviewer] Let's go back, Professor, to the economic program, to what kind of support it has, and what the public reception to that program is like.

[Kwiatowski] The people polled agree that the reforms are necessary. The conviction that their introduction is unfortunately in favour of the shrewd, not the hard-working, persists. One can also observe that the changes force people to work better, the supply of the market is (?much) better assessed at the moment, as well as the quantity and assortment of goods produced. People say that the reform may result in a fall in production, which it will be difficult to make up. In every poll, concern about this increases. After the first months of the implementation of the Balcerowicz plan, favorable changes in the market situation can be put down as pluses, and the further pauperization of society as minuses. In the opinion of most, the standard of living is falling. In the third month, when the new economic rules were in force, not much changed in the level of approval for the whole program: about two thirds think the program will continue, but its outcome seems uncertain to them; seven percent quite simply maintain that it won't succeed; and nearly every fifth person believes in the success of the changes introduced. I read: Does the continuation of the economic policy up to now enable the crisis to be overcome and assure Poland's development? In March, 52 percent gave a positive answer to that question, every fifth person has a pessimistic approach to this question, and 29 percent did not have any opinion on the subject.

## 'Solidarity' Paper Chief on Falling Circulation

*AU2003154890 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish
15 Mar 90 p 6*

[Interview with Ernest Skalski, deputy editor in chief of GAZETA WYBORCZA, by Irena Scholl; place and date not given: "How Are You Coping?"]

[Text] [Skalski] The circulation figures for GAZETA WYBORCZA have fallen by 80,000 copies since last September and unsold returns have risen from 6 to 14.9 percent.

[Scholl] What are you proposing to do about it?

[Skalski] The "Ruch" [Workers Publishing Cooperative] distribution network is going about these things in such a confused way that we have no idea what the true distribution situation is. We do not know what the true figures for unsold returns are, or whether GAZETA WYBORCZA is being delivered in adequate quantities to those outlets where there is greatest demand for it, and so on. We do know that, for example, in Wroclaw—we print the paper in five cities—the printing works just cannot cope and the newspaper goes on sale very late in the day. This sort of thing always hits a paper badly. Despite all these handicaps our readership in the large cities has remained loyal to us.

[Scholl] Has the price had any influence on the figures that you have mentioned?

[Skalski] In my opinion it has had less effect than late deliveries, or even deliveries to outlets where there is no great demand for the paper. When last May we began to publish the paper, we were dearer compared to other papers, because at that time GAZETA WYBORCZA cost 50 zloty's [Z]. Today it is cheaper, because our price is currently Z400 and all the other papers are more expensive.

[Scholl] How can you expect to pay your way when the price of paper and printing, as well as other services, is rocketing?

[Skalski] We shall carry more advertisements. We are also beginning to carry supplements of a more local nature, for example, "Gazeta Stoleczna" the GAZETA WYBORCZA supplement for the Warsaw region. Similar supplements are beginning to appear in Radom, Kielce, Krakow, and Lodz. We are thinking about producing a supplement for Szczecin, and the one for Slask is already on the drawing board. We are also thinking about producing one for Gdansk. Others may be in the pipeline. Local news, matters, and happenings, as well as the advertisements, make GAZETA WYBORCZA more attractive and competitive. This is a business that pays.

## Government Discusses ZSL Assets, SD Debt

*LD2203052790 Warsaw PAP in English
1950 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] Warsaw, March 21—The government commission for assets of political parties and representatives of the PSL "Odrodzenie", Polish Peasant Party, met today to discuss what to do with the assets of the ZSL, United Peasant Party, which the PSL-O replaced.

The sides agreed that buildings constructed on land owned by the former ZSL and constituting its property would be turned over to the PSL-O. Buildings built by the ZSL on state-owned land will be made available for the broadly understood peasant movement.

The remaining buildings used by the former ZSL will be taken over by the State Treasury.

The government commission also met with representatives of the SD, Democratic Party, to discuss debts owed by the SD to the PKO State Bank. Last year the SD also drew 2.5 billion zloties of credits from the NBP, National Bank of Poland.

## SdRP Protests Liquidation of Press Concern

*LD2303104490 Warsaw PAP in English
2300 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Warsaw, March 22—The Central Executive Committee of the Social Democracy of the Republic of Poland (SdRP) protested against the Sejm's (Lower House) passing of the law on liquidation of the RSW publishing concern created by the former Polish United Workers' Party (PUWP).

According to the committee, the law aims to liquidate the papers which are critical about the current situation as well as to reduce the chances of the left-wing in the elections to local self-governments.

The RSW Supervisory Council also protested against the law, pointing to the political background of its adoption by the Sejm.

### Interview With Huszcza on PZPR Property

*AU2303152690 Warsaw TRYBUNA in Polish 19 Mar 90 pp 1, 3*

[Interview with Treasurer Wieslaw Huszcza, member of the SdRP's Central Executive Committee, by Dariusz Szymczycha; place and date not given: "Confiscation in the Name of Pluralism"]

[Text] [Szymczycha] From last night's statement made by Minister Hall, it appears that the talks between the government commission and the representatives of the Social Democracy of the Polish Republic [SdRP] on the subject of the property of the former Polish United Workers Party [PZPR], are at a deadlock. Whose fault is it?

[Huszcza] Deadlock is not the right word. We have, after all, in the course of several meetings been able to agree on certain solutions. We jointly agreed that the SdRP will surrender 1,721 buildings and offices to the state administration. In total, this amounts to 307,236 square meters. After some research, we agreed that the SdRP would retain four buildings in Warsaw and it would retain 21 buildings and up to six holiday properties in other places. In accordance with the suggestions put forward by the government side—subsequently accepted by us—the SdRP would retain offices of 150 to 350 square meters which would become the basis of its organizational network. Everyone who took part in the talks knows just how difficult and delicate these negotiations really are. However, despite the policy of fait accomplis pursued by some political organizations and some over enthusiastic administration officials, we were able to reach a compromise.

[Szymczycha] It appears that the government side held all the aces in the game for PZPR's property. After all, the SdRP has a 30 billion zloty debt.

[Huszcza] Correct, but the PZPR poured a lot of money into joint investment projects which are now the property of the state. The estimated sum is 35.5 billion zlotys. To this not insignificant sum we have to add the value of the PZPR property that the SdRP is surrendering to the state treasury. Thus, a possible solution presented itself, namely, you set off the debt that we owe to the Polish Savings Bank against the property we will transfer and against our claims for compensations in joint investments.

[Szymczycha] Under the circumstances, why was there then no amicable joint declaration? We have instead an ominous statement from Minister Hall.

[Huszcza] The problems arose when we came to negotiate the matter of the Workers Publishing Cooperative [RSW]. On Saturday 17 March the government's representatives informed us that they would propose that the SdRP could retain one daily, one weekly, and one monthly publication, as well as one printing works and a book publisher. These proposals took us by surprise, because the RSW had proposed a sensible solution to divide the property. It had suggested that it surrender two thirds of its printing works, 90 percent of its kiosks, and most of its publication titles. The rest would remain with SdRP and would serve the purpose of its constituent shareholders. We were not empowered to make any decision on the government's latest proposal for we could not bind our shareholders, and thus we merely acknowledged the proposal. Next day the position of the government side was more determined. There was now talk of nationalizing the whole of RSW.

[Szymczycha] However, talks were not broken off.

[Huszcza] We acknowledged the government side's position. We shall proceed according to the prevailing law and other commitments that bind us. The political overtones of the government's proposition are worrying. Nationalization of RSW would mean gagging us and would strengthen the state's mass media monopoly. It is interesting to note that the people in government today were criticizing similar practices a year ago. Nationalization of RSW might mean unemployment for many journalists whose political views differ from the government's. To put it in a nutshell, the threat to nationalize means abandoning pluralism and tending toward a new monopoly.

[Szymczycha] Does the controversy over the RSW jeopardize the agreed solutions on the other property?

[Huszcza] I would like to believe that it does not. Although I must say that we were conscious that negotiations were proceeding in a climate of ambiguities prevailing at the highest government levels. It seemed that the government side linked the writing off of the SdRP debt to the surrender of rights that the SdRP had to the PZPR's Central Committee headquarters in Warsaw. In further negotiations no mention was made of this tacit agreement. We still await new legislation on political parties which would give us the right to register the legal title of the properties that the SdRP has been able to retain. But, as the problem with the RSW has shown, anything is possible....

## Ethnic Tensions Continue Throughout Countryside

### Communique on Measures in Harghita

*AU2303200690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1928 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Communique"—ROMPRES]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—Romania's Government dissociates itself from the mass media accusations against the Magyar-nationality population in Covasna and Harghita Counties regarding the tendencies of separatism, nationalism and maiming of Romania's territorial integrity, considering them as groundless and also denies the news item according to which citizens from Hungary would have unfolded actions of provocation and instigation to violence in the counties of Covasna and Harghita, reads a communique released today in Bucharest by Prime Minister Petre Roman after conferring on telephone and meeting with representatives of the Covasna County leadership and after meeting with delegates from Harghita County who reported on the situation in that zone of the country.

In connection with the need for objective information by mass media, the government, the communique shows, will take steps to hold responsible those who transmit calumnious news items or assessments inciting by this to hatred and violence between various ethnic communities. [sentence as received]

In preparation of the 1990-1991 school year, the Ministry of Instruction will urgently endorse normative acts for the reorganization of some learning units of all grades with tuition in Hungarian for meeting the current necessities of the respective minorities. While observing the official character of the Romanian language, the free use is guaranteed of the languages of the national minorities in the zones where such populations live, the communique mentions.

The communique also shows that the access and dissemination in the country is ensured of all foreign publications in the languages of the national minorities but those that have a hostile, nationalist-chauvinist character, and announces that technical conditions will be provided for the Free Romanian Television Program 2 and the Hungarian Television program to be received also in the counties of Covasna and Harghita.

The commission set up for the Tirgu Mures events, that analyzes also the six-point claims advanced by the Mures branch of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania, which were fully espoused by the population of Covasna and Harghita County, will be rounded off with an observer from each of the respective counties, and the local authorities in the two counties will take every necessary step to ensure equal working and living conditions to the Romanian population in the region so as to avoid its tendencies to desert the zone for reasons of ethnical conflict, the communique concludes.

### Iliescu, Domokos Discuss Events

*AU2303202090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1932 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—Ion Iliescu and Domokos Geza Disapprove of Incidents"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—In Transylvania on 23 March, Mr Ion Iliescu, president of the Provisional National Unity Council, received Mr. Geza Domokos, president of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania [HDUR]. On the occasion, they examined aspects related to the developments in Tirgu Mures and other settlements in Transylvania, surveying the stages that led to the ethnic confrontations of 16-20 March.

In the name of the HDUR leadership, Domokos Geza expressed deep concern over the storming of the Union's headquarters in Tirgu Mures and the molestation of some of the members of the county leadership, among whom is renowned writer Andras Suto. Also condemned were the nationalist excesses and the acts of vandalism of both sides. Geza Domokos also protested against the indecision manifested in a first stage by the central and local bodies in charge of ensuring order.

The two colloquitors referred to the activity of the commission inquiring into the events in Tirgu Mures, expressing satisfaction at the first results it scored.

Geza Domokos pointed to the importance of the proclamation of the League of Romanian and Hungarian Youth Organizations in Tirgu Mures, assessing it as a document that can serve as a basis for a comprehensive understanding pursuing the settlement of the existing litigious issues.

Ion Iliescu and Geza Domokos were of the opinion that, through their significance, the events in Tirgu Mures and other settlements in Transylvania went beyond regional framework and strictly ethnic character, their inspirers aiming at destabilizing the situation throughout the country, at braking the process initiated in Romania by the December revolution.

Geza Domokos expressed the hope that the dialogue that began under the auspices of the aforementioned commission would continue in a constructive spirit and materialize in a substantive document ensuring, inter alia, the observance of the individual and collective rights of the Hungarian minority in Romania.

At the end of the interview Geza Domokos conveyed President Ion Iliesc a message from Reverend Laszlo Tokes expressing distress for the loss of human lives and the hope that the present difficult moments will be overcome.

### Vatra Romaneasca Demonstrates

*LD2303202490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] [Announcer] A short time ago we received a report from our special correspondent in Bucharest, Peter Marvanyi:

[Marvanyi] I received news a few minutes ago that the Vatra Romaneasca [movement] is again demonstrating in Tirgu Mures. I do not know any more at the moment about the demonstration.

During the night, unknown perpetrators completely smashed up the Magyar school and nursery school in Bucharest. They broke the windows, forced open the door, and broke benches and school equipment into pieces. By the way, there has been no teaching since 21 March because of various threats. On 22 March, demonstrators knocked down the Hungarian-language sign on the school.

Returning to Tirgu Mures: Owing to the events of the past days, the city and county unity council has resigned. Heading the new body will be a Romanian chairman and two Magyar deputy chairmen; members will be elected in such a way that the Magyars will make proposals for the Romanians, and the Romanians will do the same for the Magyars.

In Gheorghien, a 20,000-strong gathering appealed to the Bucharest government to amend the government statement of 21 March that ruffled their tempers. It is difficult to judge whether the government will be willing to do so, especially since [prime minister] Petre Roman told French television recently that Transylvania is the cradle of the Romanians. True, the premier also pointed out that the Tirgu Mures disturbances occurred as the consequence of manipulation.

In Cluj, the local organization of Vatra Romaneasca issued a conciliatory statement, with which the local Democratic Association of Romanians in Hungary associated itself, too.

### Tirgu Mures Situation Updated

*LD2303212990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Laszlo Cselenyi report on events in Tirgu Mures]

[Text] The newsworthy information from our telephone calls to Tirgu Mures today is as follows: The Romanians coming from elsewhere have free access in the city; the Magyars are kept back. At the gasoline pump in the 7 November district, Romanians are making Molotov cocktails, in sight of the police.

Yesterday evening, in Lukafalva [Gheorghe Doja] and in Ilenefalva [Ilieni]—these are villages next to Akosfalva [Acatari], in the Tirgu Mures area—Romanian villagers bearing hoes, scythes, and arms, led by Romanian police, were seen on many trucks. We do not know what happened during the night, but it is conceivable that they were the ones who attacked the Magyars of Remete [Eremitu] and who are guilty of the killings in Nagyernye. In Nagyernye, a truck loaded with stones, brandy, and [word indistinct] weapons, accompanied by armed Romanian peasants, drove into the Magyar inhabitants who had risen to the village's defense, and two Magyars from Nagyernye died.

The Reformed Church pastor from Mezoeszallas, Jozsef Darabos, was gravely mistreated. In Szaszregen [Reghin], from where we reported on anti-Gypsy pogroms some one and a half months ago, one of the members of the RMDSZ [Democratic Association of Magyars in Romania], (Jenoe Csaszar), teacher, was arrested and taken away by a captain named (Casvianu Silviu). He has not been heard from since.

Dr. Eloed Kincses, vice chairman of the former Mur County National Salvation Front, who was forced to resign, and his younger brother Elemer Kincses, artistic manager of the Magyar section of the Tirgu Mures Theater, are in hiding, and they have sent their children to the countryside.

A shocking report on the events in the main square: Vatra men patrolling with clubs addressed a round-shouldered old man in Romanian. Since he did not reply, or did not understand what they had asked, they immediately hit him on the head, he fell to the ground, and then they wiped their feet and spat on him. From a window in an upper story, a Magyar and a Romanian woman protested against this together. The police later found the identification papers of the old man, from which it emerged that he was of Romanian nationality. His sole crime was that he was hard of hearing.

Naturally, the Magyars were also blamed for this, one of the people said on the telephone. Finally, it was said in nearly every telephone call that UN observers ought immediately to go to Tirgu Mures.

### Galati Meeting Protests Violence

*AU2303214690 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1810 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—Meeting in Galati"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—A meeting of protest against the acts of violence occurred in Transylvania was held in Galati in the afternoon of 22 March. [sentence as received]

A Proclamation-Appeal was read whereby the citizens of Galati call on all the citizens of the country, irrespective of their nationality, to refrain from any destabilizing act.

Aware of the gravity of the situation created and of the nefarious consequences of the events in Transylvania, we ask the Provisional National Unity Council and the Government to prove firmness in adopting the necessary measures to stabilize the situation and establish a favourable climate for us all, no matter our nationality, to contribute to the rebirth and reconstruction of free Romania, morally and spiritually, the proclamation reads.

### Special Commission To Continue 24 Mar

*AU2303214790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2049 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—The Dialogue Continues"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—The special Government Commission now in Tirgu Mures met on Friday afternoon with the directors of the industrial, transport and commercial units in the county seat. They analyzed the steps to be taken for the urgent normalization of activity in all units.

Special heed was paid to the problems of securing adequate supply to cope with the requirements of the population in the city and county with farmfood and other goods.

The two parties made a frank and constructive exchange of views. It was established that the dialogue with the enterprise executives be resumed on March 24.

### Meeting Shows Solidarity With Students

*AU2303215090 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1836 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania -Student Meeting in Iasi" -ROMPRES healdine]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—Iasi was the venue of a large meeting of solidarity with the cause of the Romanian students in Tirgu Mures and other university centres in Transylvania.

The speakers—students, professors, rectors, deans, representatives of the church—recalled the Romanian people's century-old fight for freedom and independence, for the preservation of the national being and of territorial integrity and highlighted the feelings of kindness and tolerance, which are the dominant features of the Romanian soul, as well as the Romanians' respect for the material and spiritual assets of other nations and nationalities, for the peaceful settlement of all litigations.

At the end of the meeting, held in perfect order, columns of students marched down the main streets of the town inspired by the hope to eliminate dissension and tension, to reestablish peace.

### Economic Activity Resumes

*AU2303215290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1759 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—Productive Activity Resumed in Harghita County"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharst, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—Today, 23 March 1990, the situation in Miercurea Ciuc, Odorheiul Secuiesc, Gheorghieni, and other settlements of Harghita County is calm. Productive activities have been resumed in most of the industrial and trade unity, with the decision to continue strikes in Japanese style.

An appeal to calm was made during a meeting organized at the initiative of the county Free Trade Unions with stress on the implications of general strikes, which are not the optimal solution due to the serious prejudices they may cause both to the national economy and to the working people's incomes. It was requested that no provocation be answered. The citizens gathered in front of the Town Hall of Miercurea Ciuc expressed their wish that all the citizens of the country be informed correctly and operatively about the situation in Transylvania.

### Hungarian-Romanian Group Statement

*AU2303215490 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1838 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—Only Together Can We Solve Problems"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—We deplore what happened in Tirgu Mures, we deplore and condemn the lack of reason of some, the exacerbate chauvinism and nationalism of others, which led to painful solutions, stated Dr. Ioan Goia, president of the Hungarian-Romanian Democratic Association, based in Cluj, to daily ROMANIA LIBERA. He also specified: I am sorry that I have to bring dramatic arguments in support to what our association has proclaimed as early as its creation—that there is no other solution, that history destined us to live together, Romanians, Hungarians, other nationalities, and therefore we must continue what we started during the December 1989 revolution, that is to always stay side by side, to cooperate, to dialogue, and peacefully, humanly, stifling undesired passions, to achieve democracy with all its desiderata. Had steps been taken in this manner everywhere, there would not have been tension and conflicts that degenerated into hostile street confrontations. We firmly believe that it is not well and that we must not isolate ourselves, that the Hungarians can solve their justified claims only together with the Romanians. Our association resolutely condemns extremism no matter where it may come, Dr. Ioan Goia states.

### Statement Circulated at UN

*AU2303215190 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 2040 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Romanian Government's Statement Circulated at the United Nations]

[Text] United Nations, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—The Romanian Government's statement of 21 March 1990 in connection with the events the took place in some parts of North Western Romania was presented to the U.N. Secretary-General, the president of the Security Council and the other Council members, to the UN Human Rights Centre, to other international bodies.

The statement will be circulated as official document of the United Nations Organization.

Through diplomatic offices abroad and Romania's mission at the United Nations in New York and Geneva in particular the official stand of the Bucharest Government was made known to officials and public opinion, to mass media included. The verbal message the Romanian Prime Minister Petre Roman addressed to his Hungarian counterpart in connection with the events in the North Western part of the country was also made known.

### Odorheiul-Secuiesc Meeting

*AU2303220790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1808 GMT 23 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—Meeting in Odorheiul Secuiesc"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 23/3/1990—A big meeting took place in the city of Odorheiul Secuiesc on Thursday afternoon attended by over 20,000 persons, Romanians and Hungarians. The speakers condemned firmly the particularly serious acts occurred in Tirgu Mures. [sentence as received]

Expressing their discontent at the way in which the press informed public opinion about what happened, numerous participants in the meeting requested that the mass media inform systematically and objectively about the events. The participants solemnly declared that they were on the side of the peaceful citizens in Tirgu Mures.

During the meeting it was requested, inter alia, that the organizations and all individuals guilty of what happened in Tirgu Mures be brought to trial. The need was stressed that the collective and individual rights of the ethnic minorities, the principles asserted by the Provisional National Unity Council be observed.

An appeal was made at the end of meeting to all nationalities in Romania, to Romania's state bodies and to the United Nations. The appeal is signed by the Free Trade Unions, the HDUR [Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania], and the young Szecklers' Union of Odorheiul Secuiesc.

### Roman TV Interview on Communique

*AU2303225690 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 2100 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Interview with Prime Minister Petre Roman by unidentified Romanian Free Television reporter in connection with 23 March government communique, in Bucharest; date not given—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] [Roman] In Covasna and Harghita Counties, there are certainly feelings of solidarity with what happened in Tirgu Mures, or more precisely, feelings of disapproval of what happened in Tirgu Mures, of the violent confrontations. However, in these counties, according to the opinion—we believe justified—of the gentlemen with whom we held talks, no confrontations have ever taken place. This is an important thing that we have to note.

[Reporter] Mr. Prime Minister, I would like to take the opportunity to ask you how you evaluate the current situation in Mures County?

[Roman] I think that we can characterize the current situation as calm and peaceful. Certainly, the tension that has accumulated has not disappeared, because it cannot disappear so quickly. However, it is important that the Commission appointed by the Executive Bureau of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC] be able to settle this tension, to reduce it, and even eliminate it from the life of Tirgu Mures Municipality, and in general from Mures County.

We noticed that also certain negative statements have been made in connection with the activity of this commission. I am not in a position to directly answer these statements, however I can say that this commission has achieved an important, very important objective—that is, the reelection of the Executive Bureau of the Provisional Council of Tirgu Mures Municipality through a consensus of Romanian and Hungarian communities. I believe that this is very important, and now this commission will have its authorized and legal say in connection with the persons who are guilty of extremist actions and of instigations.

[Reporter] I would like to ask you about some of the results of the investigations, since you know already some of the results of the investigation that is being carried out in Tirgu Mures.

[Roman] Certain results have already been reported: 38 people have been detained and have been transferred to the prosecutor's office. They will be investigated to see to what extent they are guilty of actions of violence. Certainly, all of us were shocked by the images that the Romanian Television broadcast, but those images did not belong to the Romanian television. Now I would like to criticize the Romanian Television for having such a minor presence at these events, because had it been present more, the images it had broadcast could probably have been [word indistinct], objective, and neutral, and would have shaken the conscience of the Romanians and of the population in general—that is, including the citizens of Hungarian nationality. It would have shaken these consciences, and maybe it would have been a wakening to reestablish calm. [sentence as heard]

[Reporter] I believe that this criticism is indeed justified and I would like to inform you and the television viewers that tomorrow a Romanian Television team will leave go by military plane to that area and we hope that during the night we will be able to broadcast images from Tirgu Mures.

[Roman] It is very important that these images should not incite people anew. In those moments images should have emphasized these extremists, these people who led the confrontation, and the incriminations that followed should not have been on a void, unknown area.

It is necessary to incriminate those who started violence. It is even our fundamental obligation to stop them and sentence them in accordance with the law, and in this respect the Television should have had an important role in providing information to the Romanian public, as well as for public opinion abroad, where too much information circulated that did not come from the inside and which presented in an inadmissible, denatured way the actions of the Romanian population. This I believe brought us certain prejudices. This is also the meaning of the communique, of the government statement, which gives a justified and very exact picture of Romania's position on what is happening in Romania and on what the international public should know, in connection with these events.

[Reporter] I would like to assure you and assure the television viewers that television will do its best to provide information and relate in an objective way the events in Tirgu Mures...

[Roman, interrupting] And let us hope that fewer and fewer events will occur.

[Reporter] Yes, we all hope that. One last question I would like to ask you: Would you please make a few statements relating to Hungarian Foreign Minister Gyula Horn's statement?

[Roman] Yes, Mr. Gyula Horn's statement did not help put our direct relations on a normal path of cooperation and collaboration, because, unfortunately, it is an undissimilated attempt to intrude to a certain extent in the way in which the Romanian Government is solving its own problems,and at the same time, makes inexact reference to the so-called inaccessibility of Romania's prime minister in connection with the request of the Ambassador of Hungary who wanted to talk with me several times. I made a point of getting precise information about this, and I can state with complete responsibility that a period during which he claims it was impossible to talk with me never existed. There was never an official request or even an ordinary phone request to talk with me. I must note that, in comparison with this case, other ambassadors: of the FRG, of the United States, of France, or of Spain succeeded in finding me quite easily on the phone.

[Reporter] Thank you very much for your statements and for your visit to Studio 4, which you know from the very first days of the revolution.

[Roman] I thank you, too, and I want to mention that I continue to be the same person who lived with the television in those hot days.

[Reporter] Thank you again.

### More Anti-Hungarian Demonstrations

*LD2403131990 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1300 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] Further anti-Hungarian demonstrations have started in Tirgu Mures. Hungarian radio was informed of this by a journalist from Novisad. [passage omitted]

At noon, the Romanian head of government received our ambassador in Bucharest. Our correspondent has only been able to report on the fact of the meeting, but it can be taken for certain that at the talks between the Romanian premier and the Hungarian diplomat, the differing evaluation of events in Tirgu Mures, and of the situation in Transylvania in general, will be discussed.

### Crowd Waits for Election Returns

*AU2403160790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 0816 GMT 24 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—Preoccupation for the Settlement of the Tirgu Mures Residents' Claims"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 24/3/1990—Several hundreds of persons were in front of the Tirgu Mures Municipal Mayor's Office in the afternoon of Friday [23 March] to wait for the election returns for the leadership of the Provisional Council of National Unity. Mr. Gelu Voican-Voiculescu, deputy prime minister, who chairs the special government commission, made known the names of those elected at the head of the respective councils at a county and municipal level. They were also addressed by the new chairman of the Tirgu Mures Municipal Council, Gheorghe Cornel. He asked the city's inhabitants to trust in the council's new leadership, that was preoccupied with settling the people's and of work collectives claims. Around 2130 hours [1930 GMT] there was quiet in the city's central square.

### Roman on Accusations Against Hungary

*LD2403161290 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1500 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Peter Marvanyi report from Bucharest]

[Text] The Hungarian ambassador, bypassing diplomatic protocol, finally made contact with the Romanian premier, and thus, the meeting came about today. Pal Szuts said afterward that, for example, they had held talks for one-and-a-half hours. He handed to Petre Roman the message from Miklos Nemeth and the standpoint of the Hungarian Government, accompanied by the comment that the Romanian Government statement on 21 March had badly affected relations. It had not eased the friction; on the contrary, it had ruffled feathers in both countries. The ambassador said that there was no essential difference between them in evaluating the events; that is, Petre Roman also condemned the Romanian extremist manifestations. As he said, it is normal for there to be demonstrations in front of the RMDSz

[Democratic Association of Magyars in Romania] headquarters in Tirgu Mures, but it is not normal to bring people armed with sticks into the city.

There was no mention of provocation stemming from Hungary; more precisely, the premier does not accuse the Hungarian Government of such a thing. Petre Roman said that the Bucharest statement on 21 March, which blamed the Hungarians for everything, was necessary because Romania's reputation abroad was so bad, in connection with the Tirgu Mures events, that the government could keep silent no longer.

The ongoing investigation into the disturbances will bring the culprits to light, the Romanian premier promised the Hungarian ambassador.

According to Pal Szuts, by the way, things will slowly quiet down. Unfortunately, this appears to be contradicted somewhat by news I received not long ago from Translyvanian cities. According to this, in Satu Mare, Baia Mare, Sighetu Marmatiei, Tirgu Mures, Cluj, and Oradea there are preparations under way for a provocvation. Vatra Romaneasca is summoning people for a so-called counterdemonstration tomorrow morning, saying that the RMDSz is organizing a demonstration, and they would take action against this. According to my information, this is not true at all; RMDSz is not planning any kind of demonstration, and I believe it would be mad, now, to take people to the streets. However, it appears that the Romanian extremists are doing precisely this, and they are preparing for a nationwide coordinated provocation.

By the way, in spite of the threats and contrary to a morning report, mass and church services will be held, after all, on 23 March in Sighetu Marmatiei.

### Government Meeting Examines Unrest

*AU2403165790 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1112 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 24/3/1990—Romania's government gathered on the morning of Saturday, 24 March in a working meeting chaired by Prime Minister Petre Roman. Measures were analysed that the government must take for the maintenance of a calm situation throughout Transylvania.

### Roman, Hungarian Envoy Meeting

*AU2403185290 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Today Romanian Prime Minister Mr. Petre Roman received Hungarian Ambassador Pal Szuts, at the latter's request.

The Hungarian ambassador recalled the message extended to the Romanian prime minister by Hungary's prime minister and the statements of the Hungarian Government and Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the ambassador handed over to Prime Minister Roman the texts of these documents. The ambassador presented his country's position on events in Tirgu Mures and other localities in Romania and expressed the concern of the Hungarian side in connection with these events. In this respect, he called for efficient and joint efforts to change the sentiments of animosity that have emerged and to calm down spirits. In this connection, he praised the Romanian Government's communique on the meeting with representatives of Covasna County and with delegates from Harghita County and asked for clarification of the reasons that have led to the Romanian Government's declaration of 21 March.

Mr. Petre Roman presented the Romanian Government's position and efforts to settle the problems of concern to the Hungarian minority and the measures taken to settle the situation that has arisen in the wake of violent clashes in Tirgu Mures. In this respect, he presented the sequence of events beginning with 15 March, when 10,000 Hungarian citizens participated in manifestations in our country connected with that anniversary; the respective manifestations were accompanied by certain acts that offended the Romanian people's national feelings.

However, the prime minister said, the Romanian side refrained from public comments until 21 March, when, unfortunately, a number of Hungarian figures made some inappropriate statements—probably for electoral reasons, as well—something which led to, among other things, the publication of the Romanian Government's declaration, designed to throw light on the issue.

Mr. Petre Roman asked the ambassador to convey to the Hungarian Government the Romanian side's appeal to hinder and, if possible, even renounce any acts that may hurt the Romanian people's national feelings, so that both sides can jointly work to eliminate all tension. The Hungarian Government, Mr. Petre Roman went on, must believe in the Romanian Government's sincere wish to ensure the observance of human rights for all of Romania's citizens, regardless of nationality. We want, the Romanian prime minister said, the Hungarian Government to help us, rather than to make our situation more difficult through statements that give the Transylvanian Romanians the feeling of being in danger. Therefore, the prime minister said, I believe that we can establish a normal and, given time, even a good situation in the relations between Romania and Hungary. We should count on each other, but there should be actual deeds, Petre Roman concluded.

The Hungarian ambassador thanked the prime minister for the reception and emphasized that following the discussions we now understand each other much better in many respects.

## Further on Tirgu Mures Events

*AU2403170390 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1600 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] This morning, Romania's Government met in a working session to examine measures required to maintain a calm situation throughout Transylvania. On the basis of information presented and proposals made during the discussions, the government established firm measures to solve, with lucidity and moderation, all the problems that generated a state of disunity between Romanians and Hungarians in that part of the country, to put an end to tensions, to prevent conflicts, to reestablish calm and public order in all localities there, and to ensure quietude and normal conditions for good coexistence between the two communities in the spirit of the democratic principles and values proclaimed by the December 1989 revolution.

Concerning education in the Hungarian language, the government decided to publish full data on measures taken thus far in this respect.

During the meeting, the ministers reiterated their support for the government statement and Romania's international initiatives in this respect, which render a correct and objective account of the development of events in Transylvania.

The Romanian Government, which places the country's interests and the observance of the Romanian people's national feelings above everything else, expresses the determination to create an atmosphere devoid of tension, to ensure true equality among all the fatherland's citizens, to implement human rights, including those of the national minorities, and to work to establish relations of friendship and cooperation with the neighboring countries and all states in the world.

The government expressed its displeasure with the fact that the free Romanian radio and television did not properly reflect the government's position at a time when this was absolutely necessary, given the existing tension in that area. The government asks the mass information media to relay thoroughly, correctly, and promptly the official viewpoints in all spheres, particularly in connection with the efforts to reestablish calm and socioeconomic activities in Mures County.

## Roman Sends Letters to Leaders

*AU2403171290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1501 GMT 24 Mar 90*

["Official News—Romania's Stance on Events in the North-Western Part of the Country"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 24/3/1990—Prime Minister Petre Roman sent to the prime ministers of the European countries, to the UN secretary-general, to other high officials in the United Nations and to international European bodies, letters presenting Romania's stance on the events in some localities in the north-west of Romania. In his messages the Romanian prime minister starts from the fundamental prerequisite that a correct and objective assessment of the situation can derive only from accurate knowledge of facts and of the causes behind them.

Underlining the gravity of the activity of nationalist-chauvinist and revisionist instigation carried out by certain circles from Hungary against Romania, Mr. Petre Roman shows that the problems related to the national minorities in our country, which imply a number of difficulties inherited from the past, boast, in the new conditions create by the December 1989 revolution, every prospect of finding a proper resolution, on the basis of observance of the fundamental freedoms and rights of all the citizens of the country, be they Romanians, Hungarians or people of other nationalities. As a matter of fact, the respective messages show, the Hungarian minority, just as other ethnic minorities has been on the barricades of the revolution together with the Romanians and shed their blood together for the ideals of freedom, democracy and economic and social progress.

At a time when Romania encounters difficulties in the process of passing from totalitarian dictatorship to democracy, when international solidarity is needed more than ever before, the Romanian Government appealed to the Hungarian authorities urging them to put an end to the hostile shows and attitudes against Romania, so that existing problems those relative to the ensurance of full equality of all the country's residents included may be solved in quiet and peace, on the basis of understanding, tolerance and mutual respect.

Informing that the necessary steps had been taken to avoid new confrontations and to reestablish calm, the prime minister referred to the appeal the Romanian side sent to the Hungarian Government asking for an end to the dangerous actions of denigration and disinformation taken by Hungarian officials, both in the relations with Romania and in the international arena, which seriously hampers the efforts made by the Romanian Government.

The letters appeal to their addressees urging them to use their influence in order to put an end to all outside interference in Romania's affairs, so that its citizens, irrespective of nationality, may fully commit themselves to the fulfilment of the ideals of democracy, freedom and dignity that united them in the days of the revolution, so that reason and assets of civilization may prevail in interstate relations.

Similar letters were sent by the minister of foreign affairs, Sergiu Celac, to the U.S. secretary of state and to the minister of foreign affairs of Canada.

### Radio Reports News Conference

*LD2403190490 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] The leader of Romania, among other things, also talked about the situation in Tirgu Mures ["Marosvasarhely"]. Peter Marvanyi reports:

[Begin Marvanyi recording] President Iliescu today held a news conference for Romanian journalists. During this, in the spirit of yesterday's government communique, he asked the journalists to ensure that public information is correct. It was a significant comment of his that the events in Tirgu Mures coincided with the beginning of the electoral campaign and, unfortunately certain elements in some parties took advantage of the situation. He referred, for example, to the National Peasants' Party, which marched out of the discussions that began in Tirgu Mures and organized demonstrations, which almost returned the town to the troubled situation at the beginning of the week.

There is no alternative for solving the questions of the nationalities except by creating the conditions for coexistence, dialogues, and understanding, Iliescu said.

In answer to a question, he reaffirmed that he is ready to sit down to talk to the leader of Hungary at any time. He cannot take up the earlier invitation to Budapest, because given the situation at the time, he cannot leave Romania, he said. [end recording]

### Iliescu on Unrest

*AU2403202890 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1836 GMT 24 Mar 90*

["PNUC President on Events in Tirgu Mures"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 24/3/1990—During a meeting with representatives of the Romanian press on Saturday, March 24, Mr Ion Iliescu, president of the Provisional National Unity Council [PNUC], said the bloody events in Tirgu Mures were a negative event, an escalation of tension occurring at a difficult time in the life of the country.

Showing that many problems had amassed along the years in the relations between Romanians and Hungarians and between the two countries, Romania and Hungary, President Ion Iliescu said: We hoped that with dictatorship toppled, a new page would open in the coexistence of the Romanian majority population with the Hungarian minority in Transylvania, in civilized, democratic conditions. As a matter of fact, when the dictatorship was overthrown there was full understanding of everything it did wrong in the life of the country, in the life of the people—both the Romanians and the minorities. The consensus on the overthrow of the dictatorship was real for all Romanians, no matter their nationality. Later on, tension has mounted in the relations with the Hungarian minority and more internal and external factors emerged to further escalate that tension. As we all know, they were systematically fomented by a certain propaganda. In consideration of a number of highly positive signs right after the revolution and of the two countries, Romania's and Hungary's wish to promote bilateral friendly links, set on democratic principles, we thought stand takings that only fomented tension in inter-ethnic relations in Transylvania as hostile.

We proclaimed the democratic principle of Romania's alignment to the internationally valid principles of respect for the rights of national minorities, the ensurance of full equality of rights of all the country's citizens, unhampered participation in the whole social, political and cultural process, the full assertion of their conscience, their culture and the use of their mother tongue. However, there were insistence and haste that deepened suspicion and mistrust. Moreover, steps were taken in education, in a number of schools in Transylvanian localities and they further deepened that frame of mind. We consider that what happened in Tirgu Mures was a result of escalating tension, of the action of extremist elements generally interested in destabilizing the situation in the country. These events prove to what the instigation of nationalism can lead and it actually led to acts of extremism and it leads to irrational acts. We want to create optimal, normal conditions for the coexistence of all the country's citizens on the basis of mutual esteem and respect. We have a solid foundation for the coexistence, which lasted along the centuries, of all the minorities that came here, developed and have been living together with the Romanian people. We should therefore promote tolerance on either side, open spirit, dialogue, mutual understanding and, if need be, also mutual concessions, as it happens in any community. It is from this stand that we should approach the question since it is only by means of democracy that we can ensure the settlement of our issues. The extremist, rigid stands, the pushing to measures of strength, as it is said, are irrational and cannot help in any way.

We are reproached for not having averted such a situation as it could have been. It may be so. But in our present conditions and in the conditions of tension generated by our today's society it is very difficult to find the necessary equilibrium. We were reproached for not having taken measures of strength. Meaning what? Resorting to the military occupation of the country? Is this the way we should take? The way of a police-like regime by which we should control the collectivities, or should we take the natural, normal, political way of dialogue, of keeping a spirit of understanding?

In this respect I think the extremist, uncooperative, untolerating stands, no matter on whose part they come, are the major danger for our stability and for the democratic settlement of all issues.

Painstaking but fertile activity has been deployed these last few days. The commission appointed by the PNUC Executive Bureau and by the government has been working in Tirgu Mures and it has managed, with patience and difficulty, to establish the needed dialogue between the two parties, between the representatives of the Hungarian population and of the Romanian population, between the representatives of the "Vatra Romaneasca" Union and of the Hungarian Democratic Union. A certain understanding has been reached and the spirits in the city are calmed down. It cannot be said that all problems have been settled, that the elements of tension are gone, since there is still tension, suspicion, mistrust on either side. But it is a positive fact that the county and city councils have met and decided together to re-elect the Executive Bureau at county and city levels. A modality was even resorted to which seemed wise to us. Seeing the mutual reserve and suspicion, it was suggested that the Hungarians pronounce on the Romanian representatives in the council and the Romanians on the Hungarians ones, in an attempt to create a way to mutual confidence. The attitude of the National Peasant Party representative who protested, expressed his disagreement and left the meeting only to come back with several hundreds of noisy youth in the square is ununderstandable. If the other party had reciprocated that outburst of temper conflicts could have emerged again. These outbursts of passion and narrow party views are very dangerous when placed above the fundamental interests that should unite us all in a common effort to calm down the things. I think the lesson of Tirgu Mures ought to be a lesson of political maturity for us all.

In answer to journalists' questions, Ion Iliescu stressed the need for removing suspicion and mistrust from the relations between the majority Romanian population and the Hungarian minority. The problem of the relations between the Hungarian minority and the majority Romanian population, he said, is a problem the Romanian state alone has to settle.

## Three Magyar Villages 'Ransacked'

*LD2403212890 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 1830 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] It can hardly be said that the situation in Transylvania is clear; the tension is often aggravated by erroneous, local information.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] This morning, a young man, who understandably does not want to reveal his identity, arrived in Szeged from Tirgu Mures. He indignantly placed some newspapers from County Olt in front of me. What do these articles contain?

[Unidentified speaker] An appeal from Major [Vasile Tura], representative of the former National Salvation Front, and Radu Ceontea, president of Vatra Romanesca, to the inhabitants of Oltenia from [Arges], Olt, [Dos], and [Mehedin], by means of the County Olt daily ['VOJCE'] 'FIGYELOE' [said in Hungarian, meaning "Observer"]. It contains the following points: Armed Szeklers and Magyars have barricaded every road leading to Tirgu Mures. Magyars have occupied every official institution, including councils, schools, hospitals, and shops. We, the members of Vatra, are in hiding, since they have threatened us with death. Of course every report is groundless, and it is inciting public opinion against the Magyars.

[Reporter] What impact does this have on the everyday people? How do they evaluate this?

[Unidentified speaker] When I traveled over, I noted with surprise that the simple Romanians lay the blame on the Magyars and on the Government of Hungary, primarily.

[Reporter] What is the real situation, what did you experience?

[Unidentified speaker] I can inform the public about some details which so far have been kept quiet, that the armed inhabitants of Hodac, Iganesti ["Libanfalva"], [Rusii Munti], and [Bedabistra] ransacked three Magyar-inhabited villages in the course of their journey to Tirgu Mures, Singeorgiu de Mures ["Marosszentgyoergy"], and Ernei ["Ernye"], where the victims included one dead and 16 severely injured, and Dumbravioara ["Sarombericefalva"]. Relative peace prevails in the city. I see a solution only in informing the public correctly, in an objective handling of the events, in calling the guilty to account, and in making their names public. [end recording]

## Romanian-Hungarian Group Ends Talks

*AU2403213390 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1958 GMT 24 Mar 90*

["Transylvania—A New Round of the Tirgu Mures Joint Commission Concludes"—ROMPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 24/3/1990—A new meeting of the joint commission made up of representatives of the Romanian and Hungarian populations, of the Vatra Romaneasca Union and the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania [HDUR], Mures County branch, came to an end on the evening of March 24. The commission's works proceed in Tirgu Mures under the aegis of the government commission.

The Saturday debates covered the evolution of the events and constructively elucidated a string of issues. The participants noted that after the December 22 revolution pluralist political structures allowing for free expression of opinions had been set up also in the political life of the national minorities. The joint commission requested that besides the media in existence the local TV studio should be re-established, with programs in Romanian, Hungarian and German, and the theaters give bilingual uncensured shows.

They insisted on the necessity of correct, objective information of public opinion on the course of events in Tirgu Mures and Mures County as well as on the observance of the national minorities' rights so as to ensure full equality of rights of all citizens of the country.

As for the national minorities' rights, they should find a legal framework in harmony with the universal declaration of human rights, the Helsinki Final Act and the Vienna document as well as with all international treaties accepted by Romania, and be expressed in their entirety in the country's constitution and law.

The declaration of the HDUR representatives regarding the Hungarian population's loyalty to Romania's territorial integrity as a sovereign and unitary state was acknowledged, as well as the fact that the HDUR did not want, does not want and will never want Transylvania's tearing off the country's body or its splitting through administrative enclaves.

The commission requests the immediate cessation of the political strikes and street demonstrations all over Mures County, at least by April 9, 1990.

Two joint working commissions were set up a press commission and an intimation one.

Agreement was reached on the necessity to ensure the right to tuition in one's mother tongue and the problem is to be settled by the parliament that will be elected.

Other points agreed upon refer to the observance of public order, the securing of jobs for the citizens abusively dismissed for ethnic reason after December 23, 1989, non-recourse to out-of-place polemics and invectives.

The Vatra Romaneasca Union and the Hungarian Democratic Union jointly condemn violence and deplore the actions that led to bodily injuries and material damage.

### Hungarian Group Denies Demonstration Role

*LD2503032090 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 2100 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] In Bucharest, the headquarters of the Democratic Association of Hungarians in Romania denies having called its members to a demonstration on Sunday. Prior to this, the organization called Vatra Romaneasca had seen the local Romanian residents in various Transylvanian settlements about holding a so-called counter-demonstration on Sunday, for the Hungarian minority wanted to go out to demonstrate, too. The tension also is heightened by the fact that a gasoline can was found in one of the rooms of the Hungarian kindergarten in Bucharest. The government commission sent to Marosvasarhely [Tirgu Mures] launched an investigation in the nearby villages, whence the stirred-up Romanian peasants were taken to the main square of Marosvasarhely. A group of a few hundred Romanians walked along the residential districts of Marosvasarhely on Saturday afternoon, too, chanting anti-Hungarian slogans. Hungarian signs were torn off two schools in Szatmarnemeti [Satu Mare]. It is calm in Arad, as the organizations working in the town decided not to organize demonstrations.

### Rallies Held Throughout Romania

*AU2503142690 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Rallies supporting the government's measures to calm down ethnic clashes in Transylvania are being held throughout Romania. A mixed committee of the Romanian Government which is researching and proposing solutions needed to calm down the situation in Tirgu Mures has appealed to all the citizens of this and other counties to stop political strikes and manifestations. The citizens have only partially responded to this appeal.

### Situation Returning to Normal

*AU2503144890 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1100 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Our co-worker Valentin Marica reports from the Tirgu Mures radio station that the situation in the city has begun to return to normal, although tension still persists.

Efforts are being made to restore public calm. For this purpose, 50 patrols of policemen and civilians are keeping the whole city under observation. The main entrances to the city are guarded by the Army and police.

The government commission, which is carrying out its activity in Tirgu Mures, has requested the cessation of all demonstrations in the street, although they continued last night.

The city residents have great confidence in the role of dialogue initiated through the work of the government commission, even if this dialogue still has stages characterized by reticence.

Despite the hesitation which can still be noted in the activity of the commission, receptivity and tolerance are increasing. These things give birth to the trust that the work of the government commission will stimulate the possibility of peaceful coexistence between Romanians and Hungarians. This is coupled by the fact that both the Romanians and Hungarians understand that only through reason and open and sincere dialogue will life resume its normal course and tension be eliminated.

### Roman Regrets Arson at Malev Airline

*AU2503180290 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1724 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES, 25/3/1990—Unidentified extremist and irresponsible elements put on fire the headquarters of the "Malev" airline agency of the Hungarian Republic in Bucharest in the night of Saturday to Sunday. The Bucharest police started a thorough investigation to identify and punish the wrong-doers.

In a letter addressed to the Hungarian ambassador in Bucharest, the Romanian foreign minister expressed his regret for the incident expressing his hope that it would have no repercussions on the state relations between Romania and the Hungarian Republic.

## Iliescu Calls for Ethnic Tolerance

*AU2503190590 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1700 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Statement by Ion Iliescu, president of the Provisional National Unity Council (PNUC); place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed fellow citizens, the December 1989 revolution in Romania, which broke out 100 days ago, is at a crossing point now. In a very short period of time, we have laid the foundations for a pluralist democracy, which offers the necessary framework for the first free elections in Romania in the last 50 years. However, parting with totalitarian communism has proved to be a dramatic process, marked by political and social upheaval and confrontation, which has occasionally degenerated into regrettable conflicts.

We must confess that the Romanian society currently finds itself in a relatively fragile social, economic, and political balance, the preservation and strengthening of which requires cooperation and dialogue among all patriotic forces. In each nation's life, there are moments when its supreme interests imperiously require the convergence of all its political forces. We are at such a time now. The intentions of various political and cultural formations to ensure basic civic rights and social well-being can only be fulfilled against a background of countrywide stability.

We consider as natural and legitimate the aspirations of our country's national minorities for basic democratic rights, equal to those of the whole Romanian people. As far as the Romanian state is concerned, all citizens are equal. The state is primarily interested in defending and guaranteeing all the rights and freedoms of all its citizens. However, the attainment of these rights cannot be done on the spot, as apparently requested by certain groups, some of which are impatient, others even extremist. Indeed, democracy can only be one for all. Therefore, we cannot accept the idea that everything should be done now for the minorities, while for the Romanians only gradually and as conditions allow.

Any attempt at gaining rights, even though they may be fully justified, at the expense of the country's destabilization—and also with the occasional assistance of foreign pressure—can only lead to an escalation of adversities and even to violence. Such an attitude can even jeopardize the possibility of guaranteeing these rights. One cannot conceive of true democracy when—deliberately or not, or knowingly or not—one questions the sovereignty and united character of a state, and when loyalty to the Romanian state is not the same for everyone; as a matter of fact, the latter suppositions were rejected by the responsible representatives of the Hungarian minority.

The current serious political and ethnic conflicts create the impression that Transylvania may become a possible subject of discussion, as has been done by previous regimes of sad memory. We want to state most categorically that Ardeal and its belonging to the Romanian fatherland cannot be a subject of negotiation with anyone. This is a common position, clearly expressed by all citizens, including the representatives of the Hungarian minority. In Ardeal, as well as in the whole country, there is room enough for guaranteeing the rights of all ethnic communities, without ever questioning the uniform character of the Romanian state.

Our state firmly speaks out for asserting and guaranteeing true democracy. At the same time, it will take all necessary steps against any destabilization attempts.

We reiterate the 22 December 1989 statement of the National Salvation Front [NSF] on the rights of the national minorities, which is in full accordance with the UN Charter. We again emphasize that the implementation of the provisions of that statement will proceed in step with the general democratization of our society and with ensuring the natural rights and freedoms of all the country's citizens, without creating privileges for a given ethnic community.

In view of the situation already created in the country and in order to prevent a possible escalation of tension, we call on all political formations, the unions of the national minorities, and the leaders of the Orthodox, Greek Catholic, Roman Catholic, and Reformed Churches to urge their citizens to show tolerance, understanding, and reconciliation, to refrain from force and violence, and to resume the processes of production and education.

We also call on Hungary's authorities to show political reason and lucidity and to avoid statements and stands capable of inciting certain categories of the Hungarian population in Romania to adopt dangerous attitudes, which may also result in similarly unpleasant reactions from the Romanian population. There is no other way for us but coexistence, good-neighborliness, and cooperation in a free and civilized Europe. We must search for ways and means to reach this goal through constant dialogue and cooperation, in a calm and lucid atmosphere; we must find these necessary ways and means together.

As one can see from radio and television reports, in Tirgu Mures there is a promising beginning of a dialogue between the local representatives of the Vatra Romaneasca Union, which consists of several million representatives of the Romanian population throughout the country, and the local representatives of the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romanian. We value the activity of this joint commission and we believe that it can be an example for other counties, too, and for the central leaderships of the two organizations.

## Further on 'Poisoning' Outbreak in Kosovo

### LC Blames Separatists

*LD2303144190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Pristina, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—Judging by everything so far, those who organized nationalist separatist demonstrations and who have engaged in the most wicked forms of special warfare in the past few months, are involved in the case of poisoning schoolchildren of the Albanian nationality in Kosovo, with the intention of homogenizing Albanians into a national platform and pushing them into collective clashes with other nations and nationalities. This warning was made by the Kosovo League of Communists [LC] Provincial Committee Presidium.

Here is the full text of the statement from the session of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium:

At today's expanded session (presided over by Rahman Morina), the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium voiced concern over the latest situation caused by the reporting of cases of poisoning of a large number of young people of Albanian nationality in several places in the province. Understandably, this caused alarm and deep anxiety among all citizens. With the view to this mood—which has been spreading constantly and its assisted by much misinformation dispersed according to a plan and also by individual statements and reports in some public information media—the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium calls on medical workers and institutions, and appropriate state bodies, to establish and publish the truth quickly.

The Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium warns of the possibility that forces that organized nationalistic and separatistic demonstrations and that have engaged in the most wicked forms of special warfare in the past few months, are involved in this case, too, with the intention of homogenizing the Albanian nationality on the nationalist, separatist platform and pushing it into a collective confrontation, even armed conflict with other nations and nationalities, with the Serbian Republic and Yugoslavia. The fact that everything in connection with this happened according to the already well-established scenario, that exclusively members of the Albanian nationality reported cases of poisoning [words indistinct] points to this possibility. [words indistinct]

Such threats are more prominent [word indistinct] than ever before, because on this occasion in Podujevo there were cases of physical attacks, beatings, endangering of lives of a number of Serbs and Montenegrins, including breaking into flats and the municipal committee building, and assaults on state institutions. At the same time, forces of order manifested inexcusable passivity. This is one more warning to state bodies of Kosovo, Serbia, and Yugoslavia that their further passivity could have fatal consequences.

Proceeding from this, the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium calls on all socio-political subjects, working people and citizens, but also all state bodies, with all political and other available means to prevent manipulation of citizens, to reveal organizers and exponents of such actions, and to undertake legal measures against them, as well as to protect the safety and freedom of all citizens and to prevent at any cost attacks and endangering of lives, such as occurred on 22 March in Podujevo, the statement of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee Presidium concludes.

### 'Epidemic' Spreading

*LD2303171690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1028 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Pristina, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—The as-yet-nidentified but certainly single-nation epidemic is still spreading in Kosovo. This morning a number of Albanian students from Vucitrn, Titova Mitrovica, Urosevac, and Lipljan sought medical help in their local clinics. Pec hospital was almost besieged by people who claimed that they and their families were poisoned.

A number of Albanian workers from the Polet [enterprise] in Vucitrn sought medical help as well, and a number of workers from the Balkan [enterprise] in Suva Reka left their work posts in protest. [passage indistinct]

Approximately 400 patients, who were admitted to the Pristina hospital on 22 March are feeling better, according to the doctors' statements and the majority of them will probably be discharged today.

An official report on everything that has happened is expected to be published today, according to Lek Vuksani, provincial secretary for health and social welfare.

### Islamic Community Statement

*LD2303172690 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1322 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sarajevo, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—The Islamic Community believes the emergency measures in Kosovo should be urgently lifted because they create additional psychological tension and uncertainty. Furthermore, everything else impeding democratization of relations, pluralistic expression of views, constructive dialogue with all pro-Yugoslav forces, and other forms of seeking ways out of the crisis, should be abandoned.

This is noted in today's statement by the Supreme Council of Elders of the Islamic Community in the SFRY, issued from the session. The session analyzed the recent visit by members of this Islamic Community supreme body to Kosovo.

The Islamic Community denounces all pressures to emigrate from Kosovo, as well as taking away national, cultural and religious rights, the right to live on one's land and other inalienable rights of every free man and society, the statement notes.

The Islamic Community again voices its protest against and public complaint concerning attacks and endangering of lives, that is, over killings. All those killed in Kosovo were Muslims. In particular, the statement protests attacks and maltreatment of religius servants and believers, attacks on religious buildings and offices, about which members of the Supreme Council of Elders learned on the spot, the statement claims. They also protest against violation of religious and moral norms of Muslims.

The Islamic Community joins the demands that every case of murder and physical and other forms of maltreatment be clarified and results be made public, and that appropriate measures be undertaken against those who overstepped their powers.

Together with these stands, the Supreme Council of Elders of the Islamic Community will proceed to the Federal Executive Council president and president of the SFRY Presidency a report contianing statements of Muslims about the situation in Kosovo. Believers gave the statements to members of the delegation of the Supreme Council of Elders, which visited Kosovo, the statement notes.

### Albanians Attack Serbs

*AU2303162090 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] At the beginning of the program, we carried reports on the dramatic situation in Kosovo. In Vucitrn and Klina, Albanian nationalists have attacked Serbs, injuring about 10 people.

### Poisoning Charge Questioned

*AU2303162690 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Nebojsa Spajic report from Kosovo]

[Text] There has still not been any official reply to the most important question of whether there has been poisoning or a staged show in Kosovo.

Doctors who are Bozur association members have announced that it could be concluded that this was a staged show. They stress that it could have been suspected that something was being prepared because a large quantity of medicines and intravenous materials arrived a day before the alleged epidemic. They say that Serb and Montenegrin doctors are finding it quite difficult to reach patients and that when they manage to do so they confirm that there is no sign of poisoning or physical ailments. The doctors who were on duty found these patients smoking and listening to the news in corridors 20 minutes after the alleged shock.

Serb and Montenegrin doctors claim that the first analyses show that there are no signs of poisoning.

The Committee for the Truth About Kosovo also does not believe in the possibility that this involves poisoning. The Kosovo alternative groups, however, do not doubt that the Albanian schoolchildren were poisoned because of their nationality. At a news conference, their representatives said that there were ways for poison to spread selectively in a limited area.

Ibrahim Rugova, Democratic Alliance of Kosovo leader, requested that the public be informed as soon as possible about the gas that was involved. As regards the 22 March unrest in Podujevo, Rugova said that the Democratic Alliance condemns in principle every violent act, adding that the violence in Podujevo was only a consequence of the poisoning.

The alternative groups also protested at the fact that 28 March has been proclaimed a state holiday, citing that this could encourage unrest. They are calling on citizens to live and work normally over the holiday.

### 'Wave of Unrest' in Kosovo

*AU2303155890 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The situation in Kosovo is becoming more difficult by the hour. The wave of unrest spread today to Vucitrn, Urosevac, Klina, Pec, and Prizren. There were cases of alleged poisoning, mostly of younger ethnic Albanians. Several hundred of them have asked for medical help. Patients arriving every minute at the Pristina Clinical Center complain about being poisoned in a way that medical theory and practice have not registered.

The most difficult situation, however, was in Vucitrn. Local Serbs and Montenegrins have been submitted to the kind of terror that one does not remember, even during times of war. Groups of aggressive Albanian separatists searched for Serbs and Montenegrins in the streets and beat them unconscious. Ljubisa Stanojevic and Milenko Milutinovic have been seriously injured. About a hundred Albanians were beating them to the point of exhaustion. The injured were transferred to Pristina hospital. Zoran Jovic has been stabbed with a knife. A Belgrade Television team was attacked when it tried to film the chaos in the Vucitrn streets. Thanks to the combined militia unit, they managed to save their skins.

Strong militia forces blocked the center of Vucitrn, but groups of militant Albanians controlled roads entering the town for several hours. It is not known what the situation in the nearby villages may be like. Eyewitnesses claim that the life of every Serb or Montenegrin was in danger this morning. Members of Slavic nations have barricaded themselves into their houses and apartments. In telephone conversations with some of them we learned that they are armed and that they are expecting the worst to happen any moment.

A similar situation occurred in Urosevac where Albanian separatists were running wild for several hours. Militia inspectors Dragan Stamenkovic and Stojce Stojcev have been beaten up.

During the chaos this morning, there were some attempts to drag Serb and Montenegrin children into cars and take them to hospital as if they had been poisoned. Such attempts were thwarted by militia. We have learned that Urosevac Socialist Alliance President Ramadan Ramadani has joined the separatists' wild activities.

Pec hospital was virtually occupied by patients who complained of poisoning. The situation in this Metohija town is still extremely tense.

Groups of Albanians were attacking Serbs and Montenegrins who found themselves in the streets. Jordan Djuric was beaten up in the middle of the street in Malisevo.

After the pogroms on 22 March, many Serbs and Montenegrins were evacuated from Podujevo this morning. We have learned that seven militiamen who searched Serb and Montenegrin apartments have been suspended. (Avduj) Mustafa and Kadri (Makasena) have been arrested under the suspicion of having been beating up Serbs and Montenegrins in the street. Over 30 Serbs and Montenegrins were injured in Podujevo on 22 March.

Pristina Surgical Clinic Director Dragan Bulajic told us that the relatives of Zivorad Jovic, who was injured on 22 March, transferred him into Kraljevo hospital. He was beaten up, knifed in the chest, and lost a piece of his scalp the size of the man's hand. He was operated on in Pristina hospital on 22 March, but his condition is still critical.

Reports about an inexplicable passivity on the part of the organs of law and order have been arriving from many places in the province. They intervene only when there is a conflict that results in injuries to Serbs and Montenegrins.

An extraordinary session of the Kosovo Government discussing the dramatic situation in the southern Serbian province is under way.

### Situation 'Aggravated'

*AU2303163790 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1430 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] The situation in Kosovo is being aggravated in a dramatic way. The reason for the present aggravation is the mass poisoning of ethnic Albanians, above all young students. TANJUG reports that the outbreak has spread to the majority of communal centers in the province. According to the latest data, those poisoned include not only students but also workers. It has been announced that the representatives of the Faculty of Medicine in Pristina will inform the public of the results of the mass poisoning analysis today.

The Provincial Committee Presidium of the League of Communists also assessed today that the situation in Kosovo is again getting complicated, or rather that it is acquiring dramatic dimensions with the mixture of interethnic clashes. It assesses that the people involved in the latest events are those who had organized separatist demonstrations and whose aim is to push the Albanians into a collective confrontation with other peoples and nationalities.

As we have reported, the Red Cross of Slovenia sent a truck to Pristina on 22 March, bringing first aid to the young people who suffer from poisoning. The Red Cross of Slovenia secretary told us about an hour before this newscast that the truck had reached Pristina and was standing where the militia had stopped, while the driver is being interrogated by the militia since 0900, as the secretary told us.

We have just learned that the driver has been released, and the cargo has been delivered to the hospital.

### Health Secretariat on Poisoning

*LD2303191490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1722 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Belgrade, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—Following the information about the poisoning of students in Podujevo, the Federal Secretariat for Labor, Health, Veterans' Affairs, and Social Policy together with the Republican Secretariat for Health, Social and Children's protection of the Socialist Republic of Serbia sent a team of experts that visited Kosovo on 22 March. The team cooperated with experts of the clinics of Pristina's medical faculty.

The team's insight into the medical files reveals that between 10 and 19 March there was no evidence of an increase in the number of patients with contagious diseases. Between 19 and 21 March, 18 individuals were received at the clinic for contagious diseases. The patients complained about exhaustion, heavy breathing, chest pains, facial burning sensations, dry mouth and dizziness. However, on 22 March alone 352 individuals who complained about thse difficulties were received at the clinics of the Pristina medical faculty.

The highest number of those received by the clinics of the medical faculty by 1400 [1300 GMT] were the students of Podujevo (about 200 of them), later on individuals from other towns (Pristina, Urosevac, Lipljan) also started arriving. All the individuals received and examined were of Albanian nationality, mostly 16-18 year olds.

The clinical examination of these individuals has established that they had red complexion around the cheekbones, their ear lobes were slighly swollen and burning red, while in some of the cases conjunctivitis was also in evidence. All the patients are conscious and have a sense of orientation in space and time and recognize other individuals. The examination showed that the facial blushing and ear-lobe coloration receded an hour after they were received. Treatment and hospitalization are believed to be unnecessary.

The team of experts has taken samples of blood, urine and stomach fluid and some earlier samples to conduct toxicity tests. The samples have been delivered to the Military Medical Academy of Belgrade.

The first results of the analysis do not indicate the presence of toxic substances. Clinical tests have established that there is no health damage caused by contagious diseases or toxic substances.

On the basis of this, the team's expert opinion is that this phenomenon bears no characteristic of contagious diseases or intoxication.

The team suggested to the Department of Hygiene and Epidemiology to step up its monitoring in the province to prevent a real epidemic of some contagious disease following the current situation.

### Serbian Role Increased

*LD2303190890 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1755 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Pristina, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—The republican Secretary for Internal Affairs of the Socialist Republic of Serbia has decided that the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs is to directly control public security tasks in the police station in Podujevo.

Aleksandar Petrovic, assistant republican secretary for internal affairs, stated this today at the session of the Kosovo Socialist Alliance of Working People [SAWP] provincial conference.

Speaking about the 22 March events in Podujevo, Petrovic confirmed that individual policemen worked under instructions of Albanian demonstrators and took a number of Serbs and Montenegrins to the police station. The police even searched, as demanded by Albanian nationalists, Vlastimir Lekic, correspondent of JEDICSTVO of Pristina, and pharmacist Slobodan, Cvetkovic. In doing so, they exceeded their official powers. Because of this, Faik Pajaziti is dismissed from the post of assistant commander of this police station. The process of establishing the responsibility of other policemen who abused the office is under way.

Petrovic, however, said that in his view the police intervened on several occasions and gave full protection to the attacked Serbs and Montenegins during the nationalistic rampage in Podujevo.

He also provided the information that two persons of Albanian nationality have been detained because they first beat up a citizen of Serban nationality, and then took him to the police station. He reported that in the 22 March attacks by Albanian nationalists, eight members of the Serbian and Montenegrin nationality were injured, two of whom received serious injuries. The Albanian extremists on this occasion also used violence to seize two pistols from citizens of Serbian nationality.

The assistant provincial secretary for internal affairs confirmed the news about the 22 March blockade of Podujevo by Albanian separatists. They controlled, he said, the approach to the town, checked people's identity, made searches and ill-treated passengers, destroyed vehicles, and they also stopped a local train. In addition, they physically attacked students and citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality, suspecting them of allegedly having poisoned the Albanian children.

Petrovic mentioned that for several hours the unbridled group of Albanian nationalists blockaded several houses and apartments in which Serbs and Montenegrins live.

Members of the Presidium of the Kosovo SAWP Provincial Conference did not discuss these incidents in Podujevo, but prior to this they wasted three hours in raising objections to the proposed conclusions concerning an article in the Kosovo information media on the events in January and February in the province.

### Commentary on Situation

*AU2303200990 Ljubljana Domestic Service in Slovene 1430 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Alenka Trlep commentary]

[Text] Kosovo is again in an uproar and again at the brink of bloody clashes, this time because of the mass poisoning of Albanian schoolchildren. It seems that even the appeals by the Kosovo alternative will not suffice now that hundreds of children have been poisoned. The alternative has been able to calm down the excited Albanian masses so far. It succeeded when it called for an end to the demonstrations, it even succeeded when the authorities began to introduce an apartheid policy and separated the lessons of white and black children and closed down the student dormitory.

The alternative at that time appealed to the Albanians to avoid the conflicts, and indeed the separation in the schools ended only with crying children and angry parents, but there were nevertheless no serious incidents as are usual during such intensifications of tension.

This is certainly to the credit of the alternative groups, above all the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo, which entire local communities are joining. They are backed by the confidence of 500,000 members. Nevertheless, the authorities are not accepting any talks with them, although the party is on the brink of falling apart. Members are handing in their party cards in masses.

The authorities are still supported by the republican center, and no offer of talks would move them. It may happen that this time, because of the unsuccessful calls to a dialogue, the alternative will not be able to control the excited masses.

The general dissatisfaction of the Albanian multitudes is also being aggravated by the rapid approach of 28 March. With the adoption of the Serbian constitutional amendments on that day last year, Kosovo lost its autonomy. But this is not all. Isolation of those who would not obey and sharp differentiations began then, and lives were lost for the first time since 1981.

For the Albanians, 28 March is a fateful date and a day of mourning. Belgrade has proclaimed the day a republican holiday. In the present overheated atmosphere, celebrations may turn into bloody clashes, and we will have another reason for prolonging the state of emergency in Kosovo.

### Calls Against Provocations

*AU2303201890 Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Statement by unidentified speaker; place and date not given]

[Text] In the name of all progressive and humanitarian forces, we once again call on everyone to maintain a dignified stance and not to fall prey to provocations of any kind by hostile forces, which apparently some people want persistently. In the name of reason, we must not fall into the trap of all those who do not desire stability in Kosovo and who are using all possible means to achieve their obscure ends. National relations have reached a new depth. Efforts are needed to prevent these relations from reaching the boiling point. Any provocation on a national basis could bring severe and unprecedented consequences.

The Albanian nationality has never presented itself in a hostile nationalistic manner, and will never allow this to happen, because we are all conscious that all existing problems can only be resolved in togetherness and because we do not wish Kosovo to become a ground for the manipulation of destructive forces of any nationalistic hue.

Even after the recent events, pupils and students, and all other citizens, must not be driven in the direction of dark abysses, because it is those who have created such abysses who will themselves fall into them.

### Tension Said Rising

*AU2303203590 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Milivoje Mihajlovic report from Kosovo]

[Text] Excitement and tension are rising in Kosovo in connection with the strange epidemic that at present affects only Albanians, and among them chiefly secondary school students. Several hundred students sought medical help in Pristina, Titova Mitrovica, Urosevac, Pec, Klina, and some other places again today. Doctors have not yet stated what kind of disease is involved. It is obvious that Albanian separatists have been exploiting the confused situation, and they attacked ethnic Serbs and Montenegrins in large groups today. The situation was worst in Vucitrn, where a dozen Serbs and Montenegrins who happened to be in the street at the time of the disorders were injured. They were assaulted by groups of pronouncedly aggressive separatists and were beaten literally unconscious.

Attacks on Serbs and Montenegrins have also been registered in Urosevac, Klina, Prizren, and Lipljan. In Urosevac, several thousand Albanians gathered in the courtyards of the three medical centers where they tried to demonstrate. On two occasions, the militia was forced to disperse them with tear gas to prevent major riots.

There were also incidents in the Clinical Center of the Medical Faculty in Pristina, where groups of indignant Albanians attacked Serbs and Montenegrins. About 120 patients complaining of poisoning have been accommodated in the Titova Mitrovica hospital. The majority of those who asked for medical help on 22 March were sent home. However, many of them simply change the ward or the clinic. Some refuse to vacate the rooms and chase real patients from their beds.

Podujevo has been relatively quiet today after the fierce disorders on 22 March. We learned that seven militiamen, who were with civilians, have been suspended for invading apartments of Serbs and Montenegrins on 22 March. (Avdoj Mustafa) and (Kadri Macastena) were arrested on suspicion of having beaten up Serbs and Montenegrins in Podujevo on 22 March.

A session of the Provincial Executive Council was held in Pristina today. It discussed the latest dramatic events in the province. A statement on this session is expected.

As I am making this report, protest meetings are under way of Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo Polje, Donja Brnica, and at the JEDINSTVO Newspaper and Publishing Enterprise in Pristina. The Serbs and Montenegrins are particularly revolted at the passive attitude of the security forces in Kosovo in the past few days.

### Serbs Threaten 'Armed Self-Help'

*AU2303205090 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Nebojsa Spajic report from Kosovo Polje]

[Text] A protest meeting is under way in Kosovo Polje. Presidency of Serbia member Mihalj Kertes said that the situation in Kosovo must be improved tonight. The rule of law will begin to operate. Kertes said that Kosovo has had enough waiting for the federation, and the problem of Kosovo is to be solved by Serbia.

A republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs representative stated that the republican militia took over the Podujevo militia station, and that the same will happen in all the places where this is seen to be indispensable.

The Serbs and Montenegrins gathered have announced that they will set up, as they put it, an armed flying squad, because they have no confidence that the state is able to stop the violence by Albanian nationalists. Mihalj Kertes opposed this and explained that Serbia has taken all the necessary measures and that armed self-help can only be harmful.

## Additional 'Poisoning' Cases

*AU2303211390*

[Editorial Report] Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian at 1800 GMT on 23 March reports on poisoning cases in various communes. It begins its reports on the situation in Kosovo with a three-minute, poorly received account of a news conference held at the Pristina Medical Faculty Clinic by its head, Dr. Alus Gasi. The announcer says that Dr. Gasi told the numerous journalists present that 430 patients were admitted on 22 March, adding that although many of them have been released, new cases of poisoning, mostly children, have been admitted continually. He also reassured those present that everything is being done to admit everyone and at all times, but that should the facilities in Pristina be insufficient, patients would be sent to medical institutions in other parts of the country. The announcer then says: "We have just been informed that an additional 250 patients were admitted today."

This is followed by a very poorly received recording of Dr. Alus Gasi addressing the medical staff of the University Clinic. Speaking in a strong voice he begins by saying: "I am calling on all of you, without exception, to be suitably prepared for your duty at all times." This is followed by an indistinct passage in which he appears to be calling on those present to "resist all attempts that may be made to hinder the work of Pristina University and its Medical Faculty." He continues by saying that the Medical Faculty has assisted all those who have presented themselves for treatment so far and will continue to do so "within our technological possibilities." He adds: "If our resources fail, we will still be admitting all those who present themselves and will have the duty to send them to wherever it may be necessary for the full rehabilitation of their health."

This is followed by reports on the communiques issued in connection with the mass poisoning of schoolchildren in Kosovo by the Federal and Serbian republican health authorities, citing TANJUG as the source.

The next item is a report on today's meeting of the Kosovo League of Communists [LC] Committee Presidium, chaired by its president, Rahman Morina. The announcer says: "The meeting expressed concern about the situation that has been created as a result of the poisoning of a large number of young people and students of Albanian nationality. This has justifiably aroused a great deal of concern, emotion, and worry among citizens. The meeting expressed regret in connection with certain rumors that appear to have been spread deliberately, as well as declarations being made by certain personalities and some sections of the information media. The LC Committee Presidium calls on the medical authorities and respective state organs to clarify the truth as soon as possible and to notify public opinion. The Presidium also draws attention to the possibility that certain forces that have also organized the separatist and nationalist demonstrations and have engaged in various forms of psychological warfare in recent months, may have been at work also in this case, with the intention to achieve the homogenization of the Albanian nationality on a nationalist-separatist platform, leading to a confrontation with other nations and nationalities in Serbia and Yugoslavia. The Presidium adds that the scenario of the latest events resembles those of previous ones, including resistance to the efforts being made in Kosovo to normalize the situation. The Presidium condemned also the physical assaults against Serbs and Montenegrins. The Presidium therefore invites all state organs to hinder the manipulation of citizens by all available means and to go to the roots of such actions."

This is followed by a number of direct telephone reports by correspondents in various communes. All these reports speak of the "great indignation" aroused among citizens, as well as "increased tension." A number of schools appear not to have operated today in various communes.

The reports also mentions that more cases have been admitted to hospitals in various communes: 296 in Vucitrn, 200 in Prizren, 163 treated on 22 March in Gnjilane and an unspecified number today, some 200 treated in Djakovica today, 82 cases reported to the hospital in Suva Reka, and 45 more in various local clinics, while 200 have been receiving treatment in Pec, and a report from Titova Mitrovica speaks of 78 patients still in the hospital. Various correspondents mention that none of the victims appears to be in any serious danger. Local authorities are also reported to have met to discuss the situation and to reassure the population, warning against disinformation and provocation.

## Democratic Alliance's Views

*AU2303214190 Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] A regular news conference of the Kosovo Democratic Alliance was held today under the chairmanship of Professor Ibrahim Rugova. It was attended by a delegation of the Ministry of Justice of Norway, currently visiting Kosovo.

In the name of the Democratic Alliance and other alternative groups, Prof. Ibrahim Rugova protested the mass poisoning of pupils in Podujevo and other Kosovo communes. The protest, which was distributed to the journalists, condemns this action as a persistent effort to incite interethnic conflicts in Kosovo and beyond. The protest calls also on all citizens not to fall prey to provocations by anyone. Ibrahim Rugova went on to say that the Democratic Alliance also strongly condemns the vandalism that took place at the time of the founding of the Alliance's branch in Lipjan. He added that the Democratic Alliance has also appealed to the authorities to discontinue the police indictment of Prof. Zekerie Cana, as well as the differentiation measures against teachers in Pristina University. Finally, Ibrahim Rugova stated that the alliance considers the appointment of [name indistinct] as vice president of the Republican Executive Council for Kosovo, with his seat in Pristina, to be unconstitutional and that this action reminds people of prewar events.

The journalists present at the conference were also handed an open letter addressed to the Assembly delegates of the Autonomous Province of Kosovo stating that the Democratic Alliance, being an organization with democratic intentions and program, supports in principle the initiative for constitutional changes. However, the Kosovo Democratic Alliance feels that the manner in which the proposed changes are dealing with the Autonomous Province of Kosovo in the initiative adopted by the SFRY Presidency in drafting the new constitution is unacceptable. The Democratic Alliance considers this to be a step backward because the Kosovo Assembly is not expected to have its say in the matter. The Kosovo Democratic Alliance concludes its letter by expressing its commitment to the defense and independent reflection of the constituent nature of the province within the federation. Moreover, the Democratic Alliance considers the proposal to make 28 March an official holiday to be a clear provocation intended to further escalate political conflicts in Kosovo and Yugoslavia.

In the name of the Women's Association of the Democratic Alliance, Luljeta Pula Beciri read out an appeal sent to UNICEF, which mentions the position of children in Kosovo following recent events, and which demands that a special commission of that international organization be formed to investigate the case of mass poisoning of pupils in Kosovo. The association also protests the 22 March Belgrade Television report by its Kosovo correspondent in connection with the mass poisoning of Albanian pupils.

### Serbian Leaders Attend Meeting

*LD2303225490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1942 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Pristina, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—The Socialist Republic [SR] of Serbia guarantees the safety of all citizens of Kosovo and there is no need for Serbs and Montenegrins in the province to organize and arm themselves again in order to defend themselves from attacks by Albanian nationalists and separatists who, over the past few days, have been stepping up their terror so as to provoke intranational conflicts. This was said this evening in Kosovo Polje, at a meeting of citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality that was attended by Milomir Minic, secretary of the Serbian League of Communists Central Committee Presidium; Mihalj Kertes, a Presidency of the SR of Serbia member; and Predrag Todorovic, deputy republican secretary of the Secretariat for Internal Affairs.

The republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs of Serbia, Todorovic said, has already taken over all the security tasks in Podujevo and it will act in this way over the next few days in other municipal secretariats in the province as well, and carry out differentiation among those who have avoided carrying out their tasks or who place themselves on the side of the separatists.

The representatives of the Serbian leadership stated that the republic will very rapidly take all the necessary measures within its competence in order to restore peace, security, and freedom for all citizens in Kosovo.

The aforementioned leaders of the SR of Serbia also toured some villages in the municipality of Vucitrn in which Albanian separatists today attacked Serbs and Montenegrins.

### Executive Council Issues Orders

*LD2403112390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1933 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Excerpt] Pristina, 23 Mar (TANJUG)—All state organs in Kosovo are obliged to prevent intrerethnic conflicts by all the means of the law-governed state and to take energetic measures to establish normal life and work, as well as to effectively protect the life and personal security of all citizens, especially members of the Serbian and Montenegrin natonalities.

As announced today after a two-day session in connection with the latest events caused by the alleged poisoning of schoolchildren and citizens of Albanian nationality, this was concluded today by the Executive Council of the Assembly of the Kosovo Socialist Autonomous Province.

The Council assessed that the demands for medical aid were abused by hostile forces operating from positions of Albanian nationalism and separatism with the aim of creating a psychosis of pressure to achieve specific political aims. This resulted in a direct attack on members of the Serbian and Montenegrin nationalities, under the motivation that they are allegedly to blame for the situation.

The Kosovo Executive Council also ordered the security organs to identify as soon as possible and take energetic measures against "the perpetrators of physical and other attacks on persons of the Serbian and Montenegrin nationalities," and take legal measures against them to prevent the spread of such phenomena. [passage omitted: health organizations are obliged to establish the cause of the situation; measures being taken to create preconditions for the normalization of life and work]

### Interior Minister Resigns

*LD2403171190 Belgrade TANJUG in English*
*1425 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Belgrade, March 24 (TANJUG)—Interior Minister of the Yugoslav Province of Kosovo Jusuf Karakushi has resigned his posts as interior minister and member of the provincial government, the Belgrade daily BORBA writes today, quoting reliable official sources.

The resignation comes at a time of extremely strained situation in Kosovo, where a mystery 'epidemic' among ethnic Albanian school children has been in evidence in the past two days, and in the wake of which has come a wave of violence against Kosovo Serbs and Montenegrins.

The local police has been suspended in Podujevo, where the alleged epidemic originated two days ago, only to spread to the other towns in the province. Public security is now under direct control of the Interior Ministry of the Republic of Serbia, of which Kosovo is a part.

The decision was taken after a number of policemen in Podujevo took their orders from ethnic Albanian demonstrants.

Most of the Slavic population was evacuated from Podujevo yesterday [23 March] due to the nationalistically motivated violence of ethnic Albanian separatists against Serbs and Montenegrins in the town, where 31 persons have been injured.

### Situation 'Calming Down'

*AU2403170990 Belgrade Domestic Service*
*in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Nebojsa Spajic report from Kosovo]

[Text] Movements by Yugoslav People's Army units have been noticed in Podujevo, Vucitrn, Titova Mitrovica, Djakovica, Prizren, and other Kosovo towns. We have reliably learned that by a decision of the SFRY Presidency the Army has been engaged in preserving the constitutional order and preventing possible interethnic clashes. This has been done because of the deterioration of the interethnic situation and the disorders that broke out in Kosovo on 22-23 March.

It is assessed that the truce in the province today is a consequence of the determination of republican and federal organs to protect the security of the people here. The Slavic people have noted with particular relief that the Podujevo militia station is under the control of the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs, and that something similar will occur soon in Vucitrn and other Kosovo towns where this may be necessary.

The picture of the situation calming down is complemented by a report from the village of Petric near Pec, where the construction of a new church has begun on the foundations of a medieval church. The Karic brothers are paying for it.

The favorable development of the situation has also encouraged the Serbs and Montenegrins in Titova Mitrovica. In the morning, they had withdrawn to their houses, fearing violence by Albanian nationalists.

We have learned at the Dean's Office of the Faculty of Medicine that Albanians are still coming to Pristina from Titova Mitrovica, alleging that they have been poisoned. At the same time, a large number of patients who were admitted to hospital for the same reason on 23 March are going to be released.

### Serbia Takes Over Security

*AU2403142290 Belgrade Domestic Service*
*in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] We are beginning our newscast with a statement by the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia:

On the basis of the Constitution of the Socialist Republic of Serbia, Amendment 43, the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia has adopted a decision on the takeover of the preservation of the constitutional order and personal security of the citizens of Kosovo by the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs.

Assessing, within the rights and duties of the republic, that the state of the protection of the constitution order and the state of the public safety and public security of citizens in the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo has rapidly deteriorated, the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia has determined that the security of the republic and its citizens demand that the Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs should take over the organization and performance of these tasks in the territory of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo.

The Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs will organize, on the territory of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, the performance of and will carry out the tasks emanating from the decision of the Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia in the way prescribed by the republican Law on Internal Affairs.

This decision has come into effect. The Presidency of the Socialist Republic of Serbia appeals to all the citizens of Kosovo to respect the Constitution and the law and thus contribute to the establishment of peace in the province.

### Presidency Examines Situation

*AU2403201690 Pristina Domestic Service*
*in Albanian 1800 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] An extended meeting of the Kosovo Presidency was held today to examine the current political and security situation in the province, particularly with regard to the situation created as a result of the alleged poisoning of a number of young people solely of the

Albanian nationality in some areas. SFRY Presidency member Riza Sapunxhiu was also present.

The Presidency considers the current political and security situation in Kosovo to be grave and complicated, threatening to assume dramatic and tragic dimensions. The Presidency assesses that recent events, in particular, have contributed to the exacerbation of the situation. The Presidency warns against possible disinformation in this connection on the part of Albanian nationalists and separatists with the intention to cause further confusion and the further exacerbation of the already complicated situation.

Proceeding from this grave situation, the Presidency calls on young people and citizens of all nations and nationalities not to fall into the trap, not to be misled by disinformation, and not to be provoked into actions against people of other nationalities, particularly Serbs and Montenegrins.

The Presidency urges the state organs and medical institutions in the province, republic, and the federation to ascertain as quickly as possible the reason for the massive demands for medical aid, and to inform public opinion.

The Presidency also urges the internal affairs and judicial organs to adopt all necessary measures to safequard the life and property of citizens, particularly those of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality, to ensure normal work in the province, and to do all in their power to prevent possible interethnic conflicts.

## Clinic Results on 'Poisoning'

*LD2403195890 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1820 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Belgrade March 24 (TANJUG)—The Federal Government announced today that the analyses made at Belgrade's Yugoslav Army Clinic had showed that there was no poisoning or any epidemic in the restless Kosovo Province.

The government assessed that what was obviously involved in the case of a massive poisoning of Albanians in Kosovo in the past two days was an action of Albanian separatists aimed at destabilizing what is already the continued aggravated situation in this province which is part of the Republic of Serbia.

The latest reports said that an epidemic of massive poisoning of members of one nationality had come to an abrupt halt and, at this time, no more than thirty-odd patients, all of them ethnic Albanians, are undergoing treatment for alleged poisoning.

Simulated poisoning of Albanians in Kosovo caused both unrests and brutal atacks by Albanians on Serbs and Montenegrins (who account for 10 per cent of Kosovo's population). In January and February, 27 Albanians lost their lives in clashes with security forces in Kosovo.

In Belgrade, a board, founded to organize the return to Kosovo of Serbs and Montenegrins who had been forced to move out, has announced that in the last two days it has been addressed by several hundreds of people from the different parts of Yugoslavia who said they are ready to urgently leave for Kosovo to help prevent what the board called the "persecution and terror over the Serbs and Montenegrins residing in this province."

## Fewer Cases of 'Poisoning'

*AU2403212690 Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian 1800 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Excerpts] [passage ommitted] A number of people who had been poisoned presented themselves at the hospital and clinics in the commune of Titova Mitrovica today, albeit far fewer than in previous days. A total of 78 people were receiving treatment in the hospital on 23 March , 45 of whom were released later. According to unofficial reports, there were cases of unseemly behavior toward patients by the Serbian staff. A number of patients left Mitrovica Hospital today and sought treatment in other medical centers. Moreover, it is reported that a number of cases were turned away by the hospital staff. Militia and security organs are controlling the movement of people in the hospital yard.

In the commune of Djakovica, more people arrived on 23 March and today seeking treatment. According to the medical authorities, 267 patients have been treated altogether. Sixty-seven people, mostly workers of the [name indistinct] textile factory, and four pupils of the Hajdar Dushi school sought treatment today. [passage omitted] It is reported that out of the total number of patients treated in the Djakovica Hospital, two were non-Albanians—one Serb and one Muslim. [passage omitted]

Four more cases were treated today in the Medical Center in Podujevo, one of whom was sent to the Pristina Medical Faculty Clinic. [passage omitted]

This morning, 26 people were admitted for treatment in the commune of Vucitrn, one of whom was sent to Pristina. [passage omitted]

According to [name indistinct], general director of the Medical Center in Gnjilane, as of 0800 GMT this morning 147 cases of poisoning had been treated since the first cases of poisoning some days ago. Of these, 114 are said to have been released immediately after being given first aid, while 30 more were kept for further treatment. Today, through 1700 GMT, a further 70 people presented themselves for treatment, of whom 34 were hospitalized temporarily for further treatment. [passage omitted]

In the commune of Pec, a total of 200 cases of poisoning were treated in the local hospital, of whom 100 were sent home immediately after being given first aid. A small number of individuals came for treatment at this center today. [passage omitted]

### Extra Militiamen Arrive

*AU2503133890 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Text] Today the situation in Kosovo is relatively quiet. Some 2,500 militiamen from the Serbian Republican Secretariat for Internal Affairs arrived in the province today. According to the Serbian Presidency's decision, the militiamen will ensure peace for all citizens of the province.

A group of doctors from Cacak is expected to arrive in Kosovo Polje at about 1700 [1500 GMT] today. They will provide medical help to the citizens of this commune. The doctors will temporarily be accommodated with local families.

This morning, about 800 Serbs and Montenegrins held a protest in Urosevac expressing their bitterness with regard to the latest wave of terror by Albanian separatists against the members of the Slav community. They demanded that all weapons be confiscated in Kosovo.

This morning about 1100 [0900 GMT], a group of some 2,000 Albanians held a protest meeting in the village of Gornji Suvi Dol near Titova Mitrovica. They were frequently showing the victory sign but when the militiamen came they dispersed.

In the village of Samodreza, barricades were erected last night and this morning. Groups of Albanians were stopping cars asking people for their identification documents.

Today, Kosovo was also visited by a Helsinki human rights delegation. The delegation members held talks with several Serbs and Montenegrins about human rights in Pristina.

### Anti-Albanian Protest

*LD2503145490 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1310 GMT 25 Mar 90*

[Summary] Urosevac, 25 March (TANJUG)—Over 800 Serbs and Montenegrins gathered today in the town's assembly hall to protest at the latest events. They also blamed President of the SFRY Presidency Janez Drnovšek; Stipe Suvar; provincial government President Jusuf Žejnulahu; and provincial government Vice President Djordje Aksic for the current situation and demanded that Albanian nationalists and separatists be disarmed.

### Albanians Call for Dialogue

*AU2503185390*

[Editorial Report] Pristina Domestic Service in Albanian at 1700 GMT on 25 March devotes 18 minutes of its regular newscast to a block of correspondents' reports on Albanian gatherings in Kosovo towns.

A report from Pec states that speakers at a meeting of citizens stated, "We will struggle as long as we live to strengthen brotherhood and unity and for a common life; this is our only option, but the human dignity and integrity of everybody must be respected. We have never asked for Kosovo to be detached from Yugoslavia or Serbia and to be added to some kind of greater Albania. We have always lived together and will continue to do so now. But this is only possible if we inaugurate and respect the democratic processes that are now a part of people's lives not only in Yugoslavia, but throughout Europe." Jusuf Berisha is reported as stating that "the large number of members leaving the League of Communists shows that its program is a vain one." A further speaker is reported as urging the return to Kosovo of Albanians who have emigrated, as well as Serbs and Montenegrins.

A report from Podujevo describes "protest meetings" in various villages at which citizens protested that "with the poisoning of Albanian pupils in Podujevo, the dire conditions the Albanian people are undergoing have reached their peak." Speakers are reported as protesting "the recent attacks on Tito's achievement in Serbia," and calling on the authorities to investigate the alleged poisoning incidents.

Similar Albanian protest meetings are reported from Prizren, Suva Reka, and Urosevac. In Urosevac, "no interethnic excesses" are reported, but Serbs and Albanians held separate meetings.

A correspondent from Djakovica reports that "cases of poisoning" have continued to arrive at the local hospital, and that the number treated has reached 514. The situation today is, however, reported as "quieter," and "the proportion of patients whose condition is serious has significantly fallen." "Further cases of poisoning" are also reported from Titova Mitrovica.

### Kosovo Assembly Session Postponed

*LD2403124390 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1025 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Pristina, 24 Mar (TANJUG)—The Kosovo Assembly session that was to be held on 26 March has been postponed until further notice. The session was to have examined the SFRY Presidency proposal for changes to the country's constitution.

The reason for the postponement, as Provincial Assembly President Djordje Bozovic explained, is that the material has not previously passed through the assembly committees and bodies. Bozovic has informed the delegates of this. The commission for constitutional issues of the Kosovo Assembly has also not yet submitted its views on the proposal for the adoption of a new Yugoslav constitution.

The leadership of the Kosovo alternative organizations, in particular the so-called Democratic Alliance of Kosovo led by Ibrahim Rugova, has come out several times recently against endorsing the SFRY Presidency proposal. A few days ago the ethnically pure association of Kosovo lawyers, which comprises only Albanians, also proposed that the Provincial Assembly should not give its agreement to the changes in the constitution.

## Trifunovic Speaks in Nis About Kosovo

*LD2203234690 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2135 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Nis, March 22 (TANJUG)—The League of Communists of the Republic of Serbia (LCS) must not and will not allow its being pushed from the scene by the different non-democratic and anti-socialist forces because of passiveness or wavering concerning the fresh steps towards democratic socialism—Dr Bogdan Trifunovic, chief of Siberian Communists, stated here tonight.

He was speaking to political activists in the Nis region about the "Basic commitments of the League of Communists of Serbia as party for democratic socialism," the document now issued for public discussion in the republic.

Trifunovic said that the LC of Serbia, by accepting a multi-party system and renouncing monopoly, had to change its role and would be organized as a modern party of progressive and democratic changes, open to all citizens who accepted its program and statute. Trifunovic, who pointed out that it was the membership who had to act decisively on the formulation of program objectives, called all youths who were committing themselves to democratic socialist programmes to be members of the LC.

Speaking about the situation in restless province Kosovo, which is a part of the Republic of Serbia, Trifunovic cautioned that what was standing behind the Albanian separatists' latest attacks was the clear and firm demand for Kosovo's breaking away from Serbia and Yugoslavia. Trifunovic assessed that this was an anti-state and terrorist activitiy in its essence, and that it was not—as some would like to present it and to delude the world into believing—a case of human rights, democracy, and inequality of one nationality relative to another.

Having noted that the LCS and the S.R. [Socialist Republic] of Serbia had an integral policy about Kosovo, Trifunovic pointed out that peaceful and prosperous Kosovo was a vital concern of Serbia. All we would do, he added, would go in this direction.

We are offering peace, equality and progress. The separatists offer conflicts, blood and secession of Kosovo. This is the truth that must reach every man in Kosovo—stressed the chief of Serbian Communists, Dr Bogdan Trifunovic.

## Demands for LCY Presidency To Resign

*LD2303151490 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1157 GMT 23 Mar 90*

[Text] Sarajevo, March 23 (TANJUG)—The Presidency of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Central Committee should resign, member of the top party leadership of the Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina Dr Krstan Malesevic said on Friday in an interview to the daily OSLOBODJENJE, published in the republic's capital Sarajevo.

Malesevic explained the republican party leadership's demand by the fact that the Yugoslav party Central Committee did not meet after the 14th special party congress was discontinued on January 23 and was unable either to prepare the continuation of the 14th congress or the holding of new one.

There are no representatives of the Slovenian republican party in the top party organ after its representatives left the congress, while a few of them have already been appointed to various offices in the state, Malesevic said.

Malesevic urged the forming of a special working group for preparing the continuation of the 14th Yugoslav party congress or the holding of a new one.

The top party leadership of the Republic of Macedonia last Tuesday declared itself for the dissolving of the LCY Central Committee Presidency and the forming of a working group for preparing a new party congress.

## Radio Ljubljana To Air Preelection Programs

*LD2203182790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1539 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Ljubljana, 22 Mar (TANJUG)—As part of its reporting of preelection activities, Radio Ljubljana has prepared special programs for 28 and 31 March and 3 and 5 April in which the political parties, or their candidates, will present their election programs.

A public draw was held in Ljubljana today as a result of which the Slovene Christian Democrats will be first to present their program in a 90-minute feature on 28 March. Seventeen political parties from Slovenia will take part in the program. On 3 April, Radio Ljubljana will organize a roundtable in which the 12 candidates for membership of the Slovene Presidency will present their aims and programs in the order established today. The candidates for president of the Presidency will present their programs to the public on 5 April. In a program of almost two hours, the first to proclaim his program will be Dr. Marko Demsar, followed by Dr. Joze Pucnik, Milan Kucan, and finally Ivan Krabmerger.

It was said today that Radio Ljubljana will finance these programs itself since the republic has no money for this. Radio Ljubljana decided on this presentation of parties and candidates because it considers that from the program point of view it is very important and significant that the public should be fully acquainted with election programs in the period of preelection activities.

### Markovic Stresses Reform Measures To Continue

*LD2203060790 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2228 GMT 21 Mar 90*

[Text] Zagreb, March 21 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government will not give up implementation of reform measures in spite of pressure, said Prime Minister Ante Markovic here today during talks with around 100 Croatian businessmen at the Zagreb fair.

Noting that the measures were already giving major results, Markovic said that the economy must begin to even more resolutely use internal reserves. They are in increasing the overall effectiveness and especially in price cuts, Markovic said.

Markovic pointed out that the federal budget has been "disciplined" and that there was no need for a deviation of the rate of exchange of the dinar.

Socially-owned property should be competitive with other forms of ownership, the Yugoslav prime minister said, assessing that mixed ownership would probably be dominant in the coming period.

On the current political situation, Ante Markovic said that he was concerned about politicalization going back to the past and hindering reform processes, stressing that the government would resolutely oppose all such attempts.

### Social Democrats Present Radio Program

*LD2203102890*

[Editorial Report] Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian at 1605 GMT on 21 March broadcasts a 30-minute program on the Social Democratic Alliance of Croatia, which is the Croat republican organization of the Social Democratic Alliance of Yugoslavia. The party is represented by President Dr. Milorad Pupovac, and Vice President Hrvoje Glavac. The two representatives stress the importance of citizens as direct electoral factors and deplore the fact that the electors are often conditioned by their religious and/or national affiliation. This is not really conducive to democracy, they say, and this is why the organization ultimately decided to register as a political party taking part in the election. Their criticism of many organizations contesting the elections is that rather than possessing the characteristics of a political party, they are in fact political organizations insisting on specific constitutional solutions within the Yugoslav community.

The Social Democratic Party has members throughout Yugoslavia, but is at its strongest in Croat towns, they add. Town organizations have anything between 40 and 60 members, and the total membership figure for Croatia is between 300 and 400.

They consider themselves to be a left-of-center party. They express the view that the League of Communists of Croatia is a center party.

They view Yugoslavia as a federal community based on the consensus of its citizens. They do not consider Yugoslavia as it is constituted today to be either democratic or federal. The new Yugoslavia must be a parliamentary democracy with a two-chamber parliament.

They consider social justice and equality of opportunity to be of overriding importance. Free and independent trade unions have an important role to play in this context, and so does education. They admit that any provisions here must be in the context of politics being the art of the possible. They also say that an equation must be established between social policy and fiscal policy. The understanding of this is sadly lacking in Yugoslavia.

In conclusion, the two party representatives acknowledge the importance of ecological solutions for the future well-being of the country.

### 'Tito's Trial' Postponed Until Mid-Apr

*AU2203150390 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 21 Mar 90 p 6*

[J.S. report: "Liberals Postponed 'Trial' of Josip Broz"]

[Text] Valjevo, 20 Mar—This afternoon, the leadership of the Liberal Party of Valjevo sent to the Federal Executive Council, foreign and domestic press agencies, several ambassadors, the Information Center of the United Nations, and others a long statement with regard to the question recently raised in the SFRY Assembly by Delegate Redzep Hamiti concerning the trial of Josip Broz's work in Valjevo.

The statement says that the leadership of the Liberal Party of Valjevo is surprised with the ferocity of criticism and opposition to its intention to publicly hold a "spectacular political happening" [English word used], something that would, above all, be a democratic trial of Josip Broz and his political work. In view of the situation that has been created with the malicious interpretations of our intentions in the SFRY Assembly, the statements says, the Liberal Party is postponing until the middle of April the aforementioned trial because it does not want to pose an additional burden on the federal government with its activities, and because it wants to see what the Federal Executive Council's view and reaction to the question raised by Delegate Redzep Hamiti will be.

### Croat, Slovene League of Communist Leaders Meet

*AU2303135290 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 19 Mar 90 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Working Meeting Between the Leaderships of the League of Communists of Croatia and the League of Communists of Slovenia"]

[Text] Zagreb—Within the framework of their regular working meetings, representatives of the leaderships of the League of Communists of Croatia-Party of Democratic Changes and the League of Communists of Slovenia-Party of Democratic Reform met on 18 March in Zagreb for talks.

As announced, they jointly assessed the current processes in the country and in the two republics and, in particular, issues connected with cooperation and links between the democratic reform forces in Yugoslavia.

## Examination of Directors' Replacements Proposed

*AU2303101890 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 17-18 Mar 90 p 13*

[M. Urosevic, V. Garcevic report: "'Warren Commission' in City Assembly"]

[Excerpt] Belgrade—On the basis of the conclusions made by the City Conference Presidium of the Socialist Youth Federation of Belgrade at its session held on 12 March, at which it discussed the current political situation in the city, Ana Smiljanic, youth delegate to the City Assembly, asked or rather demanded that the Assembly form a special commission to investigate whether there is any political patronage in the Belgrade economy. Recalling the conclusion made by the youth organization, to the effect that a number of directors of the big Belgrade collectives supported the unprincipled policy conducted by the City Conference of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Belgrade, Ana Smiljanic pointed out that one should particularly examine the appointments of directors according to political criteria during the last three years, strikes staged, and pressures made with a view to replacing successful businessmen.

Ana Smiljanic gave the examples of Dragisa Djuric, former director of the Airport Work Organization (he was replaced last year) and of the appointment of Nebojsa Maljkovic, executive secretary of the League of Communists of Belgrade City Committee, as director of the Putnik Organization (he was dismissed from that place 15 days ago). There is, of course, also the case of Milorad Savicevic, Genex Organization director general who is internationally known but has nevertheless been dismissed. Unfortunately, this is not the end of the list; Dobrosav Petrovic, president of the Communal Committee of the League of Communists of the Savski Venac Commune, was recently dismissed as Belgrade Publishing and Printing Institute [BIGZ] director under suspicious circumstances. He was replaced by Ilija Rapajic, former long-serving chief editor of DUGA, despite much discontent voiced by BIGZ workers. Another, albeit not so new example (and there are quite a few), was the appointment of Dragan Tomic, former president of the City Conference of the Socialist Alliance of Working People of Belgrade, as Jugopetrol Organization director general although he had no previous experience with jobs concerning oil. As far as we know, the worst director's case was the one with Belgrade Department Store Director Milos Slijepcevic. He was chased through the Pioneer Park, near buildings of the SFRY Assembly and the Serbian Assembly by "a group of drunken workers" who demanded "his resignation or his scalp." The workers of the City Secretariat for Internal Affairs were watching all this with extreme benevolence.

This independent commission proposed by Ana Smiljanic, which would have to examine all these cases, must not be joined by delegates who have already occupied directorial posts in economic or social organizations, or professional posts, either in organs of sociopolitical organizations or communities, or, in the administration. The commission would also have to include a representative of the Socialist Youth Organization. [passage omitted]

## Tupurkovski on 'Crisis,' National Minorities

*AU2303111290 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Mar 90 p 4*

[Unattributed report: "Cowardice Only Does Harm"]

[Text] Kavardarci—The Yugoslav social and economic crisis, as well as the crisis of socialism in our country, are similar to but also different from trends in the world and the traumas of real socialism. Our decision, however, represents a clash between the program of our reforms, which are progressive and to a certain extent unstoppable, and the general political situation, which is marked by quarrels and the absence of rational dialogue. This clash and such a base level of politics devalue our reform program, indeed, it ruins these reforms, stressed Vasil Tupurkovski, SFRY Presidency member, who was speaking to the political aktiv of the commune of Kavardarci.

We must begin to pay heed to the reintegration of Yugoslavia as a prerequisite for joining the integrational processes in Europe and the civilized development of the world. If we do not do this, not only will Europe be far away from us but we will also lose our position among the nonaligned [nations]. It does not need to be reiterated, Tupurkovski said, that internal performance determines the international position of a country. Our worsened inter-republican relations have led to a total negation of our model and the need for reintegration. We behave as if the friction will be permanent and under conditions of this "imperilment" we place what is particular over what is general. We need the kind of Yugoslav framework that will not negate the particular but evaluate it through the entirety of joint interests.

Tupurkovski devoted a special part of his speech to the democratization of relations in the country. He stressed that democracy will find it difficult to improve interethnic relations and even the situation in Kosovo, which is a concentrated expression of our problems. In this process, we will also have to accept all the consequences of the democratic way of resolving problems.

Our foreign policy activities as regards ethnic minorities are not bearing good results. We have minorities whose rights are recognized, but the Macedonian minority in Bulgaria, Greece, and Albania has not been recognized and has been subject to negation and genocide, Tupurkovski said.

We must stop playing around with the layout of the nationalities map, Tupurkovski stressed. Some leaderships in Yugoslavia must take a stand on this and accept a jointly established policy toward our neighbors. If we are frightened of behaving bravely and resolutely, the harm done by our cowardice will be far greater, it will be enormous. We must therefore categorically reject the policy of national assimilation as a defeated policy.

If we rid Yugoslav foreign policy of these things, then we will not face any obstacles whatsoever in raising and resolving the question of the national rights of our minorities, which is of vital importance for us in Macedonia and for the whole of Yugoslavia, and even for the democratic forces in neighboring countries.

### Drnovsek Meets Mandela in Windhoek

*LD2203225790 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1641 GMT 22 Mar 90*

[Text] Windhoek, 22 Mar (TANJUG)—President of the SFRY Presidency, Janez Drnovsek, who has been heading the Yugoslav delegation at the festivities to mark the proclamation of Namibian independence, had a meeting this morning in Windhoek prior to his departure for Senegal with ANC leader Nelson Mandela.

In the course of their talks, Nelson Mandela expressed "the greatest acknowledgement and gratitude to the people of Yugoslavia for the support that they have afforded and continue to offer in the struggle of the people of South Africa for freedom and an end to apartheid." Mandela emphasized, as he also did in a special statement he gave to reporters from Politika, Radio Television Zagreb, and TANJUG, that "the assistance of the people of Yugoslavia, since the time of Marshal Tito and particularly through the Nonaligned Movement, over which Yugoslavia is at present presiding, was and will continue to be of exceptional importance for our present and future efforts to carry out essential changes in South Africa."

During his talks with Drnovsek and the Yugoslav delegation, Nelson Mandela informed them about the present development of events in South Africa and in particular about the stands of the ANC on the basis of which he is shortly (11 April) to embark on initial negotiations with South African President Frederik de Klerk. He stressed that the ANC is treating as positive the direction of events, but that there are still problems, since in South Africa as a whole the system of apartheid continues to exist." He added, however, that "we have decided on negotiations, which will certainly not be straightforward or easy, and that is why I want to stress that both now and in the future we will need the help of real friends, which means, of course, Yugoslavia and the whole Nonaligned Movement."

In the talks, SFRY Presidency President Janez Drbnovsek expressed Yugoslavia's readiness to continue to offer political and diplomatic support and assistance to the ANC. This is necessary, Drnovsek said, in order to continue the positive process of changes in South Africa and finally liquidate apartheid. Yugoslavia will do this particularly through its position as chairman of the Nonaligned Movement, he said.

This morning the SFRY Presidency president together with Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs, had another meeting with UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar, and separate talks with Angolan President Eduardo dos Santos.

The Yugoslav delegation, which left today for an official visit to Senegal, was seen off at Windhoek airport by Namibian President Sam Nujoma.

### Returns From Africa

*LD2503091190 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1916 GMT 24 Mar 90*

[Text] Ljubljana, 24 Mar (TANJUG)—Dr. Janez Drnovsek, SFRY Presidency president and president of the Nonaligned Movement, returned home this evening on a special plane. At Brnik Airport near Ljubljana, Dr. Drnovsek was welcomed by Janez Stanovnik of the Presidency of the Republic of Slovenia; Republican Assembly Vice President Dr. Aleksandr Ravnikar; Janez Bohoric, Republican Executive Council vice president; Cvetka Selsek, Republican Foreign Relations Committee chairman; and other political leaders of Slovenia.

Dr. Drnovsek took part in the celebrations for the declaration of independence of Namibia and also paid a two-day official visit to Senegal. Dr. Drnovsek also spent a short time in Keyna.

In a statement for the press, the Yugoslav president assessed his trip to Africa as beneficial. Dr. Drnovsek met many important African and other statesmen in Namibia. Dr. Drnovsek assessed as particularly interesting his meeting with Republic of South Africa President Frederik de Clerk. In Windhoek, the Yugoslav president also had meetings with U.S. Secretary of State James Baker and USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Eduard Shevardnadze, as well as with UN Secretary-General Perez de Cuellar, with whom he had talks about the problems of southern Africa and Eastern Europe and also, in this context, of Yugoslavia.

"The southern African problem has a great possibility of being resolved. The meeting with de Clerk was also made possible by the readiness of South Africa and de Clerk to recognize Namibia's independence, to establish a dialogue with the African National Congress [ANC] and to free Nelson Mandela. De Clerk intends to continue negotiations with the ANC. In the Republic of South Africa, a new constitution is being prepared that should open the way to removing racial discrimination while protecting the white minority. Mandela, too, is prepared for talks," Dr. Drnovsek said. According to his assessment, these two personalities will bring the peace process to fruition, Dr. Drnovsek said. Dr. Drnovsek assessed the talks with de Clerk as significant for the future relations between South Africa and Yugoslavia. The African side gave great attention and importance to these talks.

"We are counting on the fact that after the declaration of independence, Namibia will become an important economic partner, and our enterprises will exploit the scope for and readiness of the Namibian side to cooperate, because this is a very rich country," Dr. Drnovsek said. The Yugoslav head of state also spoke about his talks with the Senegalese president. Yugoslavia is reopening its embassy in Dakar. Senegal is also ready to develop economic relations with Yugoslavia.

## International Talks on Economics, Politics

*AU2203163590 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 21 Mar 90 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "Support for the Federal Government"]

[Text] Belgrade—Scientific workers in Yugoslavia and the United States agree more among themselves and with each other on the essential factors on which federalism should be founded than politicians do. This was stated today during the first round of talks in the international roundtable discussion on the theme "The U.S. and Yugoslav Views on the 1990's" entitled "Federalism and Pluralism: International, Regional, and Economic Aspects," which was opened in Belgrade this morning.

Greeting the guests, Zivko Pregl, Federal Executive Council [FEC] vice president, stressed that he is satisfied with the choice he had opted for, when at the beginning of his term of office he faced three dilemmas: Should one first embark on economic or political reforms; should one first tackle theory [uhvatiti se u kostac sa informacijom], or should one proceed with fundamental changes in the economic system; and how should one behave in the conditions of a decentralized decision-making process at home.

The FEC vice president stressed that it is now being confirmed that the economic reform had to precede the political reform, that the deregulation of the economic system and other systemic measures have created preconditions for adapting enterprises to the strict anti-inflationary policy that was adopted last year.

U.S. Ambassador Warren Zimmerman said that the U.S. Government "has not taken any stand whatsoever" concerning the current discussions in Yugoslavia about the Constitution and other topics, but that it hopes that the outcome will reflect Yugoslav unity, ensure political and economic democracy, and protect human rights.

It is not true, Zimmerman continued, that the United States sides with anybody in the current discussions in Yugoslavia. The only "accusation" that we admit is that we are pro-Yugoslav oriented, which means that we will continue to support a Yugoslav approach toward solving problems in your country. One of the main characteristics of the program of the federal government of Premier Markovic is that it is Yugoslav.

## Reservations Voiced on Relations With Israel

*AU2303112390 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 15 Mar 90 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "A Blockade Cannot Be Met With a Blockade"]

[Excerpts] Belgrade—Departing from its planned agenda and in connection with Slovenia's refusal to contribute its share to the fund for the underdeveloped for Kosovo because of the Serbian blockade, the SFRY Assembly Chamber of Republics and Provinces on 14 March requested that the Federal Executive Council work on consistently implementing federal laws and adhering to the regulations on a unified Yugoslav market. This stand was adopted with a majority of votes. [passage omitted]

### Cautiously with Israel

"Trade with Israel is $40 million but trade with other countries, which could spontaneously react to us establishing relations with Israel, is 125 times greater. More than 170 Yugoslav enterprises have branches and work in Arab countries and the number of our workers in these countries is nearing 25,000. Should we put ourselves at risk with one wrong move at the wrong moment and give ourselves great economic difficulties?"

This was asked by Milivoje Maksic, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs, commenting on statements by Delegates Blagoje Siljanoski (Macedonia) and Budimir Kosutic (Serbia) on the development of relations with this country.

He added that a "new element" had appeared, that is to say, Israel is preparing the artificial settlement of several hundred Jews from the USSR and a complete change to the demographic structure of Israel and particularly of the occupied territories, which could have very significant political consequences. He asked further, "Does Yugoslavia—on part of whose territory demographic changes are also artificially taking place, which will have certain consequences—have the right to offer assistance to an Israeli Government that is taking such measures. This, after all, is a government that ceased to exist yesterday, from which even its allies have distanced themselves, and because of whose policy the Austrian ambassador has been recalled from Tel Aviv."